

UNIONS 'WILL QUEUE FOR BALLOT CASH'

By STEPHEN WARD, Industrial Staff

TRADE UNIONS will be "queueing up" to accept Government money to finance secret ballots, Mr Terence Duffy, general secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said at the weekend.

Unions who take the money are defying TUC guidelines that they should not "compromise themselves" by accepting cash from a Conservative administration.

ECOLOGY PARTY BACK MINERS

THE Ecology party yesterday recommended its 6,500 members to become involved in miners' support groups, and blamed the Government for picketline violence which it said had reached "catastrophic" levels.

Delegates at the party's autumn conference in Southport passed a strongly worded emergency resolution on the dispute, rejecting the Coal Board definition of "economic" pits and accusing the Government of deliberately choosing "a confrontation approach."

They also urged members of the environmental-based party, which fielded 100 candidates at the last general election, to take part in non-violent "direct action" in support of the miners and mining communities. And they pledged opposition to what they said was a dramatic threat to civil liberties posed by the Government's actions during the strike.

They said a national militarised police force would be the result of a Government victory in the dispute.

Violence a consequence

Glasgow delegate Mr David Mellor, who proposed the motion, told the conference: "The Government has set out to destroy the miners as a union. The violence is a consequence not a cause, and the responsibility for it lies with the Government."

"The only way to decide when a pit has to close is to take into account all the social and environmental costs."

"It is quite easy to do if you are not a bloody-minded ideologist like Mrs Thatcher."

Public money to fund secret ballots has been available since 1980, but so far no trade union has used it. Even Mr Duffy's own union's annual conference has repeatedly rejected his suggestion to take the cash.

The issue has now taken on an added significance because under the 1984 Employment Act, unions must hold ballots on whether they can operate a separate political fund, and must elect national executive committee members by a secret vote of all members.

The political funds cannot continue after March 1986, without unions securing the support of a majority of members in a ballot, and executive elections must be held before September next year.

Many executives are at present chosen by a vote among branch officials, and the new law will involve a huge administrative expense which unions can ill afford.

Mr Duffy, speaking on Channel Four television, said he would like the AUEW to take the money, but he had not been able to persuade his members.

£150,000 campaign

Union leaders agreed at the Labour party conference in Blackpool last week to appoint a full-time TUC officer to run a £150,000 campaign to try to persuade members to vote in favour of a fund.

A campaign of publicity attempting to point out the advantages of a fund began at 17 union conferences this summer, but leaders know that even in unions with a left-wing leadership, many members are unenthusiastic.

The most popular strategy for the unions to pursue seems likely to be to hold early ballots in those unions where they are most likely to win, in the hope of establishing a bandwagon effect which will carry the others.



Houses reduced to rubble after a gas explosion in Scunthorpe, Lincs, yesterday. A six-month old baby was blown from his cot, but he was rescued uninjured by his mother.

WALKER'S CHALLENGE TO BISHOP

By CON COUGHLIN

MR PETER WALKER, Energy Secretary, has reopened his controversial correspondence with the Bishop of Durham, Dr David Jenkins, about the miners' strike by challenging him to make clear his views about Mr Scargill.

It is the second time Mr Walker has written to the bishop since he caused a political controversy by referring in his endorsement speech to Mr Ian MacGregor as an "elderly imported American."

In a seven page letter to Dr Jenkins, the Minister voices his concern at the difference in "emphasis and attitude" in the bishop's treatment of Mr Scargill and Mr MacGregor.

Dialogue with deaf

The bishop will deliver his response to Mr Walker today. But in a press statement at the weekend he said he was close to being convinced that he was "engaged in a dialogue with the deaf."

The Bishop of Birmingham, the Right Rev. Hugh Montefiore, entered the fray over the pit strike at the weekend, calling for an end to the "politics of confrontation."

He told his diocesan synod: "If this government insists on continuing the politics of confrontation, we shall never find a national consensus on how to face the future."

Strike militants try to unseat Concannon

By JAMES O'BRIEN

A BIG effort is to be made in December by Left-wing militants who are "flooding" into Mansfield constituency Labour party in an organised attempt to unseat Mr Don Concannon, who has dis-

approved of violence and intimidation against working miners.

Membership of the party has increased by about 100, a quarter of its previous strength, since the start of the miners' strike.

Mr Concannon, critic of picket line violence, and described as during a Commons debate on the miners' strike "a copper's mark" by Left-wing MPs, said yesterday that he was "relaxed" about the outcome of reselection.

At the last meeting of the General Management Committee, Mr Leonard Clarke, a former president of the Nottinghamshire NUM, opposed the approval of the applications saying that the applicants should be subjected to "personal investigations" before any decision was taken on their admissions.

Te suggestion attracted little support and the applications have been endorsed by the Committee.

A member of the constituency party said new members were "flooding" in. Most were strike

ing miners, but there were well known Left-wing activists in the area. Up till recently one was a former member of the Communist party and another a member of the Workers Revolutionary party.

Signed declarations

A member of the constituency party said: "They have all signed declarations that they would accept party policy and that they did not belong to any organisation opposed to the Labour party."

"We know people are being recruited by these extreme Left-wingers. There is concern at their obvious attempts to take over the party's constituency machinery."

More than 25 of the new members have come through the Mansfield Woodhouse Section, although there is no official recruitment drive.

Mr Concannon said yesterday: "I am relaxed about the situation, reselection will start as soon as possible in December, and we shall see if they are a row and have any political nous. They are organised and have their own meetings."

SDP DENY LABOUR DEFECTION

Daily Telegraph Reporter

DR OWEN, the SDP leader, accuses Mr Kinnock of being "spineless" and "in Arthur Scargill's pocket" in an outspoken attack on the Labour leader's weaknesses published today.

He adds that he felt that the more Mr Kinnock is exposed to the public gaze "the more people would see there is no substance there."

Dr Owen's remarks, in *Options* magazine, follow reports that mounting dissatisfaction among Labour moderates and the threat of re-selection have persuaded some of them to consider defecting to the SDP.

But Mr John Cartwright, the SDP chief whip and MP for Woolwich, who would be party to any talks with defecting Labour MPs, last night categorically denied that any negotiations were underway.

He added: "We're out in the business of becoming a real home for MPs who have fallen foul of their local parties."

No mass exit

Labour sources admitted that a number of MPs had held talks with Mr Kinnock recently about retirement, but denied that there was any question of a mass defection.

Dr Owen's attack on Mr Kinnock is bound to make relations between the two parties frostier than ever.

Thatcher gives top priority to fighting unemployment

By GRAHAM PATERSON

MRS THATCHER has signalled to the Conservative party on the eve of its Brighton conference this week that she is giving top priority to measures to cut unemployment by setting up an enterprise unit in the Cabinet Office to promote the creation of jobs.

The unit will be headed by Mr David Young, the Minister without portfolio, who is shortly to receive a peerage.

As the former head of the Manpower Services Commission he has wide knowledge of job creation and enterprise.

Mrs Thatcher announced at the weekend that she had asked Mr Young to give his attention to three priority areas: Small firms and their role in creating jobs.

Measures to sweep away unnecessary controls and regulations which at present inhibit the creation of more jobs.

Measures to improve the coordination of education, training and employment of 14 to 18-year-olds.

'Change direction'

A number of Conservative "wets" have been stepping up their demands for reflation in order to counter the rise in unemployment.

Interviewed on TVS yesterday, Mr Charles Morrison, MP for Devon and an executive member of the 1922 Committee, said that the Government had to "change direction" to reduce the number out of work. "The Government can no longer rely on free market forces as being the perfect answer. The Government has to rely more on sensible intervention."

Although Mr Morrison's views are out of line with most Tory backbenchers, his remarks reflect a growing increase in the party at Westminster that by the next General Election the issue on which the party will be judged will be unemployment.

Mrs Thatcher's establishment of a special unit to tackle the problem is seen as an important step in giving the issue higher priority in Cabinet discussions.

BENEFITS SCHEME

COSTS £92m

By DAVID FLETCHER, Social Services Correspondent

THE new Housing Benefit scheme, introduced last year to simplify payments and save money, has proved so complex that an extra 2,700 local authority staff have been taken on to administer it, the London Housing Aid Centre (SHAC) says in a report today.

It says that the cost of administering the scheme has risen by £22 million to £92 million, a 31 per cent increase.

Despite this extra cost a survey of 52 local authorities found that all except one were still experiencing difficulties implementing the scheme.

Claimants are said to be encountering widely varying treatment from different authorities and all but three of the authorities in the survey wanted changes to improve the scheme.

Wrongful evictions

Mr Peter Kemp, author of the report, said: "The evidence establishes beyond all doubt that the problems associated with the housing benefit scheme are endemic. They are clearly not technical troubles which will go away with time."

The report says that the chaos includes widespread delays in payment of benefit, errors in assessments, problems with computers, wrongful evictions of tenants and confusion for administrators and claimants alike.

"The reasons for this debacle stem primarily from the complexity of the scheme and the extremely short timetable for its implementation."

The Cost of Chaos: A Survey of the Housing Benefit Scheme. SHAC, 185 Old Kent Road, London SE5 8AR. £3.95.



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AUSTRALIA, LAND OF OPPORTUNITY FOR A PUSHER

By DENIS WARNER in Melbourne

THE extent to which the insidious white shadow of heroin has fallen across the sun-and-surf outdoor image of Australia has staggered the people in the last two weeks of revelations about organised crime.

The televised confession by Mrs Hazel Hawke, wife of the Prime Minister, that the life expectancy of one of her daughters has been heavily curtailed by heroin addiction, was one of the more sensational moments.

But there have been others. A senior Cabinet minister's son died from drug addiction. The son of a QC investigating the drug traffic is a victim.

Melbourne learned that one police informer, into drug trafficking and related murder, was guarded around the clock by 24 police to save him from gang murder.

Before he gave evidence in a Melbourne court, the approaches were cleared and lawyers and others searched before entering the building. An armed policeman stood guard outside.

\$35,000 bribe

The courts have poured out tales of drug related murder and corruption, including the macabre tale of Terence Clark, one time of the Mr Asia Syndicate, who ordered that the bodies of two of his former accomplices should be disposed of by a meat grinder.

Relatively senior members of the New South Wales police have been named as involved in the drug trafficking. Another informer for the federal police claimed that a senior detective in the New South Wales police received \$35,000 sterling a year from heroin bosses. Corroborative evidence came from much more reputable sources.

One man, codenamed Gomorrah, was identified as a major drug trafficker by the Costigan Royal Commission, which has been investigating organised crime for the past four years.

Marijuana first

"He uses people as agents or nominees and shields himself from the criminal activity so that if it is detected he will escape," said the Costigan Commission in a document leaked to the Sydney newspaper.

NATIONAL TIMES. "Should this fail, he corrupts law enforcement officers so as to protect himself and his organisation."

Chief Inspector Doug Miller, head of the Drug Bureau in Victoria, says that the drugs of some description are available in most of the state's secondary schools.

Pushers did not start the addicts on heroin because it is too expensive. They start with the drugs they could afford. Once they got on the drugs path it was common to get involved with heroin.

"They usually start with marijuana," he said. "Then after a while they find marijuana does not give them enough lift so they move to the next stage, either amphetamines or heroin. In most hotels in Melbourne, he said, heroin was sold for about \$30 a cap. Users with serious addiction problems would spend between £150 and £200 a day.

The two common ways for addicts to raise this sort of money are by acting as pushers or by theft. In 1975 robberies in the city area totalled around 40,000 and involved goods valued at around £7 million. Last year there were nearly 79,000 robberies involving property valued at £80 million.

Most of the heroin in Australia comes from the Golden Triangle in Northern Thailand, north Eastern Burma and Northwestern Laos.

The problem of coping with the traffic is immense. Marijuana can be grown almost anywhere under cover of the bush. The coastline is so long and so little guarded, and the northern parts of the country so lacking in surveillance, that ships and aircraft have engaged in the traffic with little fear of detection.

Editorial Comment—P18

Suicide by policeman after murder rampage

By COLIN BRADY in Belfast

A TRAIL of murder, kidnapping and hi-jacking left by an Ulster policeman who later shot himself sparked an inquiry yesterday into the wave of violence which spread more than 100 miles across the Province and led to an air and ground search on Saturday.

The policeman being sought was Const. Garry Dickson, 22, originally from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, but stationed in Belfast as a full-time reservist.

Argument in car

The search began following the shooting of Mrs Irene Band, an Ulster Defence Regiment, 39, a widow, at her home in Enniskillen. Her husband lance-corporal, was killed in an IRA bomb explosion in 1972.

Early on Saturday, according to neighbours, Const. Dickson accompanied one of Mrs Johnston's daughters home from a discotheque. They stopped in a car, and Mrs Johnston overheard an argument.

She went outside, a scuffle

developed and she was shot dead.

Const. Dickson drove off and later arrived at another house outside the town. Here he tied up a man whose pregnant wife he then forced to drive off with him in the family car.

About 20 miles away they stopped at a house where Const. Dickson freed the woman unharmed, but ordered another woman to drive him to the centre of Belfast.

Head wound

She also was released unharmed, and Const. Dickson then turned up at a house near the port of Larne, Co. Antrim. There, a woman said he made two telephone calls, left the house, and she heard a shot.

When police arrived shortly afterwards Const. Dickson was dead from a self-inflicted head wound.



"Desperate and dangerous"—Christopher Hague and (right) Marek Raczyński.

Yard change of mind over escapers' pictures

By OUR CRIME STAFF

SCOTLAND YARD yesterday issued these photographs of the two gunmen, who escaped from cells at Harrow police station five days ago.

Deputy Asst. Commissioner Brian Worth, in charge of CID operations in London, and Cdr Frank Catter, head of the Flying Squad, decided originally not to publish them for "operational reasons." But then changed their minds during the weekend.

Christopher Hague, 35, and Marek Raczyński, 24, escaped from cells after kicking and punching a lone sergeant unconscious. He is still off sick.

The Yard yesterday repeated its warning that they may be

armed, and should not be tackled.

Armed Flying Squad teams were yesterday concentrating their search in north-west London, where they believe the escapers are being hidden by friends.

Hague is 5ft 10in, slimy built with black curly hair and green eyes.

Raczyński is 6ft 2in, heavily built with fair curly hair and blue eyes. He has a two-inch scar on the middle finger of his left hand, and the tattoo of a dragon on his right forearm.

They are due to appear at Harrow court charged with armed robbery, causing grievous bodily harm with intent to resist arrest and possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life.

Computer chief victim of mystery attack

DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTER

HAMPSHIRE detectives investigating a savage and apparently motiveless attack on a wealthy company executive are appealing for information.

"We are particularly anxious to trace the attacked man's movements during two vital hours last Friday night," said a spokesman.

Mr Michael Robertson, 41, is critically ill in the neurological unit at Southampton General Hospital. His Greek-born wife, Yvoni, found him slumped against his blood-stained car outside their home in Saltern's Lane, Hayling Island, Hampshire, on Friday night.

The rear outside window of the green Volvo estate had been smashed and the interior, including the rear seat and steering wheel, were covered in blood.

Detectives are interviewing friends and associates of Mr Robertson, father of two young children, who is head of the development property section of the B M computer company.

Mr Robertson left home shortly after 8 p.m. Mrs Robertson discovered her wounded husband when she returned home with their two children later, after playing badminton.

"We are anxious to get in touch with anyone who may have seen Mr Robertson or his estate car that night," said a police spokesman. Robbery is not thought to be the motive.

Police believe Mr Robertson was attacked elsewhere, but managed to drive to his home where he collapsed.

Drinkers questioned

Detectives yesterday questioned lunch time drinkers at two public houses, the Royal Shades and the Lifeboat inn, a mile apart on the seaford, showing them photographs of Mr Robertson.

Police were told he had called at both public houses on the evening of the attack, stopping for a quick drink and apparently alone.

COUPLE 'WIRED UP' IN RAID

By JOHN WEEKS Crime Staff

AN Asian postmaster and his wife had bare wires plugged into the mains electricity wrapped round their wrists, during a six-hour ordeal at their sub-post office in Loughton, Essex, during the weekend.

Had the power been switched on it might have proved fatal to the couple, Mr Firzidan Hussain, 24, and his wife, Nazam.

Two black men wearing halachava masks entered the couple's flat above the sub-post office in Lower Road, shortly before 3 a.m. on Saturday. They forced the couple at gunpoint to get out of bed, allowed them to dress and then trussed them up with string and tape.

The two then wound the wire around their wrists and plugged it into a mains socket, threatening to switch it on unless they were given the safe combination.

Dragged inside

But there was a time lock on the safe and it could not be opened until 9 a.m. The two raiders, both armed with shotguns, then waited for the time lock sequence to end.

Shortly after at 8.30 a.m. a bread delivery van stopped outside the shop and the driver was dragged inside and held with the couple.

The men grabbed several thousand pounds when the safe was opened and escaped. The bread delivery man was able to free himself, untie the couple and raise the alarm. No one was hurt, but the couple were treated for shock.

Det Sgt Graham Goulder, of the Central Robbery Squad, said: "This was an unbelievably cruel thing to do and was a terrifying experience for the victims."

EIGHT ACCUSED OF £7.2m CANNABIS PLOT

Seven men and a woman will appear before magistrates at Rochford, Essex, today, charged with illegally importing cannabis worth £7,200,000.

They were arrested on Thursday night after a Customs raid on the schooner Robert Gordon in the River Crouch.

They are Geoffrey Reginald Kings, 41, builder, Red Willow, Harlow, Essex; Brian John Hill, 35, seaman, Giffords, Cross Avenue, Corringham, Essex; Guy Terence John, 46, company director, Court Avenue, Harold Park, Romford, East London; Keith Desmond Jones, 37, engineer, of Canewdon, Essex; Sally Patricia Eytham, 27, rater, The Drive, Church Combe Estate, Uckfield, Sussex; David James Crighton, 22, dock-hand, Hillside Crescent, Weldon, Northants; John George Bridger, 37, of Cussons Close, Flimstad, Waltham Cross, Herts; and Nikolaus Kefarakis, 26, a Greek national.

3 WANTED MEN LEAPT FROM CHANNEL FERRY

Three wanted men who jumped overboard from a cross-Channel ferry about 15 miles off the Isle of Wight at the weekend were saved by the prompt action of a Hampshire police officer who happened to be in the ship.

The trio, whom police wanted to question about alleged offences in Sheffield, had been put aboard the ferry Prince of Brittany at St Malo but were not under arrest.

The officer, investigating a different matter, knew the men were aboard, and when he spotted them in the freezing waves he raised the alarm. The captain turned the ship around and a lifeboat was launched to recapture them. They were questioned at Portsmouth police station before being taken back to Sheffield.

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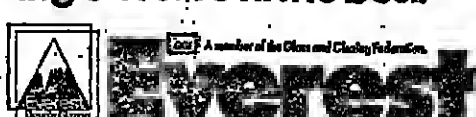
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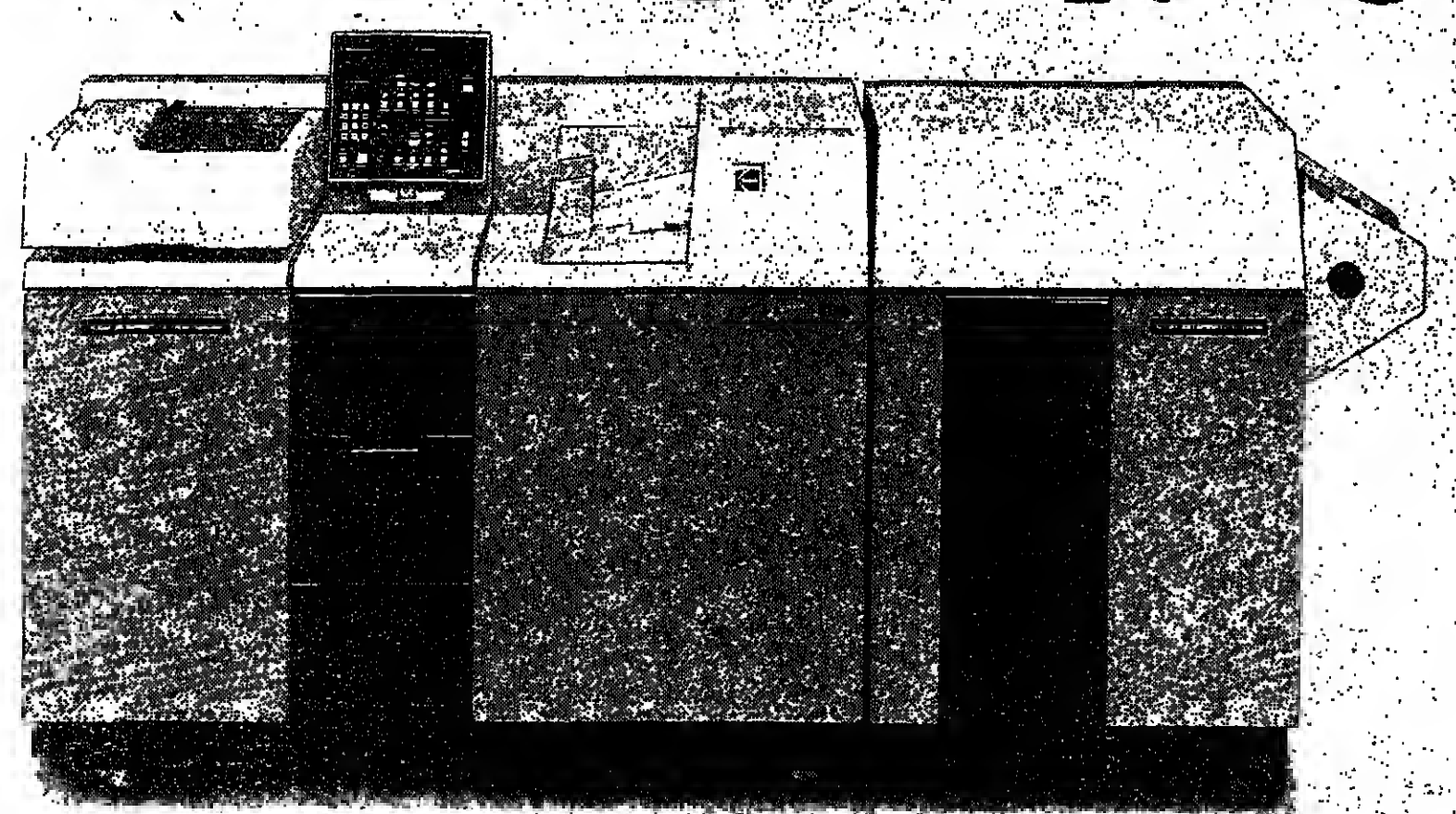
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TROOPS BROUGHT IN TO HELP PUT DOWN SOWETO VIOLENCE

By OUR JOHANNESBURG CORRESPONDENT

TROOPS of the South African Army last night were sent into Soweto, the black township outside Johannesburg, after another day of clashes between police and stone-throwing youths.

The move follows a statement by Mr Louis le Grange, Minister of Law and Order, that troops would be used if necessary to help quell the violence sweeping black urban areas.

Seventy-two people have died in two months of township violence, according to figures compiled by a group of black clergymen.

The latest victim was a 59-year-old mother of six from Sharpeville, who died a month after being choked by tear gas.

Earlier yesterday the chairman of the Soweto Council, Mr E. T. Tshabalala, was reported in the black Johannesburg newspaper, City Press as saying that the Army's 21 Battalion had been assigned to assist riot police.

"He told the newspaper: 'There won't be any mercy if the Army moves into Soweto. There will be more deaths and this is something we can't afford.'"

Soldier hurt

The battalion is an all-black volunteer unit—only whites do compulsory military service in South Africa—which was recently granted the freedom of Soweto.

A police spokesman said: "The Minister of Law and Order has said the Army will be used if necessary and that goes for 21 Battalion as well."

The first Army casualty was reported from the Joza township outside Port Elizabeth on the Cape coast.

A police spokesman said that

police and troops used whips to disperse a crowd that blocked a street with blazing rubble and one soldier was cut on the head by a flying missile.

The Government's decision to consider using troops to quell township violence drew strong criticism yesterday from English-language newspapers.

The Johannesburg Sunday Express said in an editorial that it was tantamount to admitting that unruly parts of the country were enemy territory.

"It is an exercise not in law enforcement but in reconquest," the newspaper said.

BUSH WAR TALKS

Pretoria hosts meeting

Leaders of the Renamo rebel movement in Mozambique and senior representatives of the country's Marxist Government arrived in Pretoria last night.

The first working-meeting of a Commission trying to end the ten-year war between the two sides, starts today.

The meeting follows the declaration of intent announced last week by Mr Roelof Botha, South African Foreign Minister.

Neither Mozambique nor Renamo has signed the declaration, which Mr Botha has called a "basis for peace."

Women fix snags aboard Shuttle

By IAN BALL
in New York

TWO women astronauts aboard the American space shuttle established a reputation as an ingenious repair team this week-end as nagging problems arose and were solved with often makeshift methods.

On her second trip into space, Dr Sally Ride again displayed her skill in using the Shuttle's \$20-million robot arm for problem-solving purposes that the man designers had never contemplated.

"Outstanding," Mission Control in Houston said after the Canadian-made device had been used again to fix a faulty antenna in the Shuttle's cargo bay. "Every spare part ought to have one of those arms in its tool box."

Dr Ride and her sister-astronaut, Dr Kathryn Sullivan, who is making her first trip to space, then teamed up to make a successful, if unconventional, adjustment in the Shuttle's electronics bay. It involved lifting up floor panels in the Shuttle's mid-deck, unscrewing a connector and pulling a wire out.

"Okay, Kathy and Sally have managed to tear the vehicle up down here and we got access," Mission Cdr Robert Crippen radioed Houston.

Working familiarity

The solution Houston had devised to remedy the problem was considerably more complicated than the "Kathy-and-Sally" repair, involving as it did removing some lockers and crawling into a small space.

But mission control gladly bowed to Dr Ride's working familiarity with the Shuttle's bewildering innards when she suggested the alternative course.

Before joining in these repair chores, Dr Sullivan had worked with David Leestma to transfer volatile fuel from one tank to another in a successful test of techniques for refuelling satellites in orbit.



A confidential aside for Mr Mondale, the Democratic Presidential candidate, from his wife Joan during a weekend stroll in Washington.

Violence across India

By JAMES MACMANUS in New Delhi

THE coincidence of major Hindu and Moslem religious festivals in India has produced further sectarian violence in recent days.

Curfews were still in force in several towns after six people had been killed and 28 wounded since the beginning of the week-end, the Press Trust of India reported yesterday.

In the central state of Madhya Pradesh a 24-hour curfew was extended until today following Hindu-Moslem clashes people died.

Fighting between the rival

religious groups also paralysed Belgaum in the southern State of Karnataka where all businesses were closed when a mob tried to storm the local police station early on Saturday morning. Armed police arrested 180 people.

The All India Radio reported yesterday that religious violence had continued into the weekend in the Punjab which has been the crucible of sectarian conflict on the sub-continent since the army stormed the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Golden Temple, in June.

MINISTER 'AIDED MAFIOSO'

By LESLIE CHILDE
in Rome

ITALY'S Foreign Minister was under pressure to resign yesterday because of his alleged links with the disgraced financier Michele Sindona.

The new development unfolded as the Mafia hit back against the mounting campaign to crush the international crime syndicate. Two men, relatives of "repentant" mobsters now collaborating with the police, were murdered in Sicily.

The resignation of Signor Andreotti is being demanded by the powerful Communist party—Italy's second biggest—which claims he supported and helped Sindona, extradited back to Italy last month.

The Sicilian-born banker, who had close Mafia connections, and was serving a 25-year sentence in America—was wanted in his homeland on a long list of charges, including commissioning the murder of one of his bank's top executives.

The Communists claimed that Signor Andreotti not only aided the shadowy financier, but even publicly once praised him as a man who helped to save the ailing lira from international currency speculation.

Vendetta killings

But the veteran Christian Democrat, who has served five times as Prime Minister, denies the allegations.

The vendetta killings were carried out in the Sicilian capital of Palermo as history's first Mafia "supergrass" continued, in police words, to "sing like a canary" in telling all he knows about the syndicate's crimes during the past two decades.

An undisclosed number of "Godfathers" are now also following Tommaso Buscetta's lead and collaborating with police.

Two relatives of the informers were shot dead in a Palermo street over the weekend. "The killings are obviously intended as a warning to other arrested mobsters to keep their lips sealed," an Interior Ministry official said in Rome last night.

The Pope, during a recent visit to Calabria at the "toe" of Italy, attacked the Mafia's "hatreds, vendettas, blood-lettings, robberies, kidnappings and injustices of all kinds."

'Pizza connections'

He demanded that the Roman Catholic Church put itself "in the front line to create a new moral, social and political conscience."

The sensational crackdown on the Mafia and its "pizza connection" which gangsters in the United States began ten days ago when Italian police issued arrest warrants for 566 alleged members of the underworld organisation.

More than 60 have so far been tracked down and sent to prisons throughout Italy.

The "St Michael's Day" round-up came after the powerful Godfather, 56-year-old Buscetta, decided to "repent" and collaborate with police. The men he named are held responsible for 120 murders.

Thirty-four members of the Mafia's branch in the north Italian seaport of Genoa were arrested over the weekend.

Buscetta, a fugitive for 10 years, was extradited from Brazil last July on charges of drug smuggling, an industry which earns crime cars an estimated \$500 million a year.

POPE LOOKS AHEAD

Columbus anniversary

Our Los Angeles Correspondent writes: The Pope is expected to map out a new pastoral plan this week as part of his stepped-up campaign to get priests out of revolutionary Left-wing politics in the Third World.

The Pope, visiting the Dominican Republic in the Caribbean on Thursday, will reveal Catholic Church policy until 1992, which marks the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus.

JOBS PURGE PROTEST BY GREEK CIA

By Our Athens Correspondent

Some 1,200 civilian personnel of the Greek Central Intelligence Agency have announced a three-hour work stoppage today to protest against purges of colleagues by the Socialist government. Those not on strike will be the 600 personnel of the Greek CIA's military intelligence branch, who are outnumbered by their civilian branch colleagues by two to one.

The Administrative Council of the Union of CIA employees said the stoppage was "a means of informing public opinion of the unjustified dismissals of civilian personnel under the guise of being transferred." The union demanded the reinstatement of all those dismissed over the past two years.

The Greek CIA has traditionally roused the enmity of the Left in Greece because of its alleged interference in political life through surveillance of Leftists and through the support of Right-wing governments.

LIGHTNING KILLS 9

Nine young people were killed by lightning yesterday and nine were injured while they waited to play soccer at a school near western Kenya, the Kenya News Agency reported.

Unions call strike against Mintoff's Socialist policies

By CHARLES LAURENCE in Valletta

A ONE-DAY general strike was called by Malta's independent trade unions yesterday to protest against Mr Mintoff's Socialist government.

The strike, on Wednesday, is expected to shut the banks and private industry and hit the civil service.

But most workers in heavy industries, shipyards and the State construction company, belong to the General Workers Union affiliated to the ruling Labour party.

Mr Salvino Spiteri, President of the Confederation of Maltese Trade Unions, told a rally in Sliema near Valletta that the strike was to support the State school teachers' already striking over pay and conditions, and to protest against the government campaign to close the fee-paying church schools.

All 72 church schools catering for one third of the island's schoolchildren will remain shut this week while the State schools will open half days only as about one quarter of their pupils turn up for classes held by Labour party volunteers.

Enforced closure

Archbishop Joseph Mercieca ordered his schools to shut in protest against the government's enforced closure of eight of them in the first phase of a programme to abolish private education.

The 3,000 state school-teachers have been on strike for 10 days and the union confederation, which has 12,000 members, has launched a fund to support them.

Mr Spiteri said: "We want our members to donate a day's wages to keep our front line fed."

Mr Mintoff, who has ruled

Malta for 13 years has postponed his retirement, which was to have been announced on Saturday, to take charge of the dispute with the Church.

Mr Mercieca yesterday made public the compromise plan on the church schools put forward by the Pope's foreign secretary, Cardinal Casaroli, when he met Mr Mintoff in Rome last week. Mr Mintoff refused to consider it.

Crucial points

There are four crucial points in the plan, which agrees to make all schools free as the government intended:

That the Church schools should keep their character and autonomy;

That from Jan. 1985 they should operate free of charges;

That admission should be regulated, by criteria mutually agreed between Church and government and should be "independent of social class";

That in order to make the schools free, the government should contribute to them and the Church should be allowed to raise its contribution, while parents should also be allowed to make "donations."

Observers in Malta were surprised and impressed by the extent to which Mr Mercieca was prepared to compromise in his proposals. Their rebuttal has reinforced the view that Mr Mintoff is as keen to reduce the influence of the Church in Malta as to end private education.

Negotiations with the Vatican are expected to resume after Oct. 18 when Cardinal Casaroli returns from a visit to Argentina.

Fight for hearts and minds in Malta

By CHARLES LAURENCE in Valletta

BELLS pealed from the towers of 140 Roman Catholic churches across the islands of Malta and Gozo yesterday and most Maltese answered the call to Mass.

Malta is said to have the highest density of both churches and clerics of any community in the world, and the 300,000 Maltese are certainly among the most devout of peoples.

Each Sunday must come as a daunting reminder to Mr Dom Mintoff, the Socialist Prime Minister, of the scale of the fight he has picked with the Church and, through it, so many of his people.

His government is trying to force through legislation allowing it to seize up to 60 per cent of the Church's wealth—so far blocked by the Constitutional Court—as well as halting with the Vatican to end the system of fee-paying Church schools, which educate 30 per cent of Maltese children.

'Two paragraphs'

The Church, dating from the shipwreck of St Paul, is Malta's senior institution.

Father Joseph Broge, an archdiocesan official, said: "Mr Mintoff will not destroy the Church. We have been here 2,000 years and when in another 2,000 years someone comes to write the history of Malta, we will still be here while Mr Mintoff will rate two paragraphs."

Besides the 140 churches in an island half the size of the Isle of Wight, there are 210 chapels in regular use, 500 priests and 450 monks in 27 active religious orders. There are 1,200 nuns and 200 more priests serving in missions abroad, including Britain.

Mr Mintoff's government maintains that the Church owns one third of all the "immovable wealth" of Malta.

They base this on a survey conducted by the British 100 years ago, but insist that little has changed since then.

They believe that the bishops can afford to run their 72 schools without fees by liquidating assets and using reserves. They have refused State subsidies while making the payment of fees, or offerings of donations, illegal.

Mr Joseph Mercieca, Archbishop of Malta, has embarked on a detailed inventory of his Church's wealth, on the prompting of the Vatican, but refuses to publish the results.

He has, however, published outline accounts for the year ended Dec. 1982, which show a surplus of 63,000 Maltese Pounds (about £1,154,000). The schools cost £1,741,554 (Maltese) to run and the Archbishop says he cannot provide free schooling, to which he objects in principle.

Father Broge said that 28 years ago a survey showed that the Church owned one 16th of the land in the two islands. Since then much has been sold in small building plots while the Church charges only a fraction of the commercial rate for its farmland.

The Church has £7 million (Maltese) in Reserves at home and abroad while the comparable figure for the Republic is about £1 billion (Maltese).

The schools became the latest battleground in a long-running feud between Mr Mintoff's Labour party and the Church when the Government adopted a

policy of abolishing all private education.

When the Archbishop refused to comply with orders to stop charging fees, operating licences were withdrawn and a phased closure programme instigated, beginning with the eight schools which were forcibly shut at the start of the new term last Monday.

"This is a battle for the hearts and minds of the people. Mr Mintoff wants to set up a Socialist State with no place for the Church," said Father Broge.

Pulpit message

The feud goes back 20 years with Mr Mintoff in Opposition in which the Church agreed to end facing the full force of the Church determined to crush a Socialist party it considered unduly.

Archbishop Michael Gonzi, who handed over to Mr Mercieca in 1975, declared that to support Labour was a mortal sin. Parish priests were instructed to tell their flocks to vote for the conservative Nationalist party from their pulpits. Mr Mintoff stayed in Opposition.

In 1963 an accord was reached in which the Church agreed to avoid overt political influence and one result was that in 1970, Mr Mintoff won the General Election.

Since then Mr Mintoff's Government has passed a stream of laws, both major and minor, aimed at breaking the grip of the Church on the Maltese.

The campaign has culminated in the present dangerous deadlock.

BATON POLICE HALT BASQUE MASS MARCH

By Our Madrid Correspondent

Riot police made repeated baton charges to halt a mass march by Left-wing Basque separatists through the centre of Bilbao at the weekend.

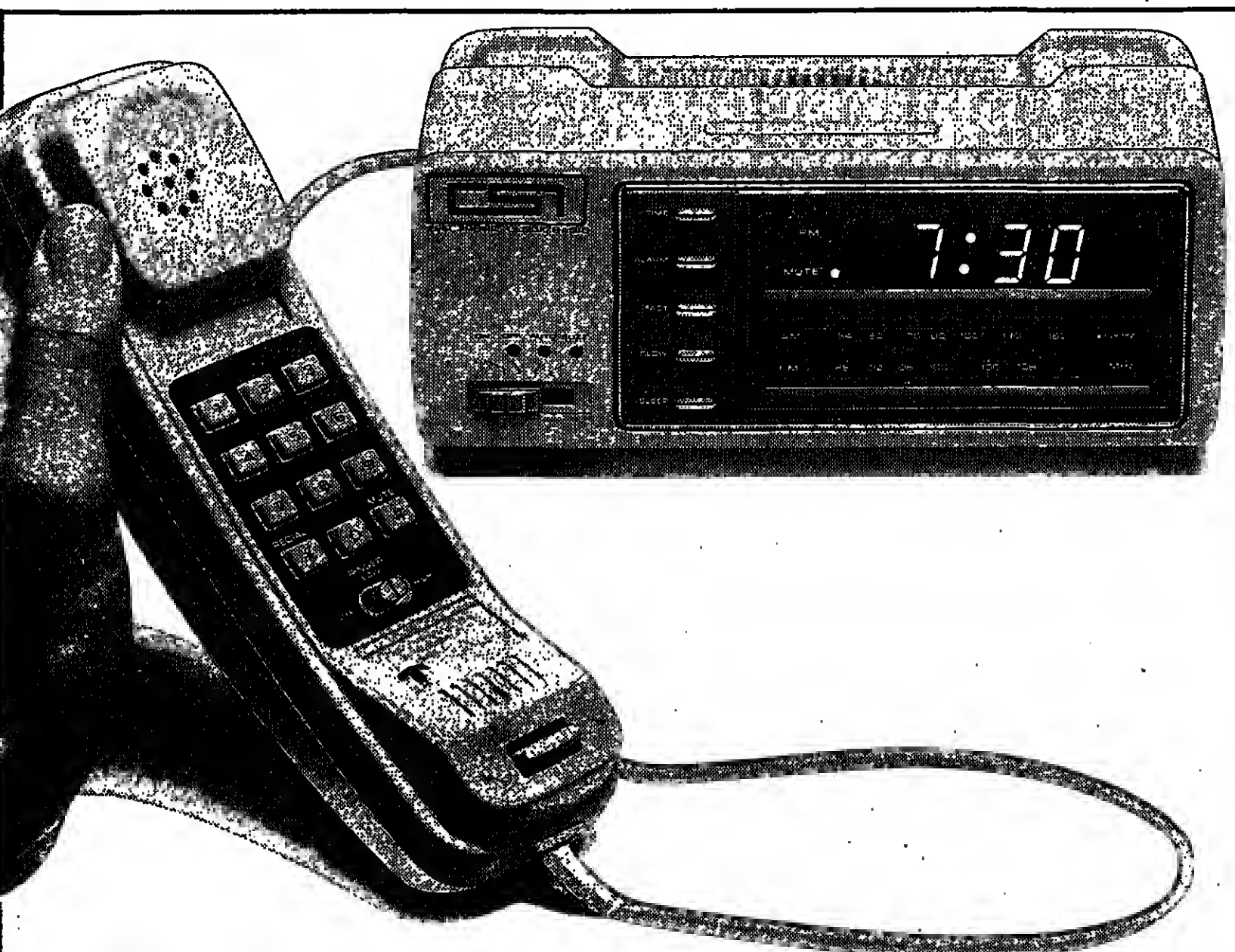
They were protesting against the recent extradition from France to Spain of three alleged terrorist gunmen accused of murdering nine people.

Five people were injured and scores bruised in the baton charges, and dozens were arrested. Violence was inevitable after the civil governor for the Basque province of Vizcaya declared the march illegal.

7m VISIT BEER FESTIVAL

Munich police counted about 7,000,000 visitors, at least 300 beer brawls, more than 100 injuries, 50 arrests and roughly 150,000 pilfered beer steins by the time the last drop of alcohol was drunk yesterday at the Oktoberfest.

Officials said 1,300,000 gallons of beer were consumed during the 16-day event, and 100,000 chickens and 100 whole oxen—



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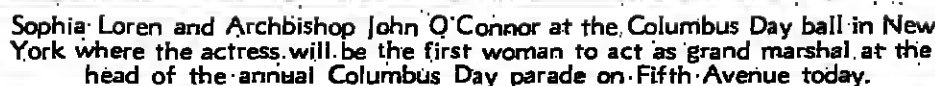
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By JOHN LICHFIELD in Brussels

The key to a breakthrough by the same token, another row, appears to be the precise wording.

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PRAGUE EMBASSY STALEMATE AS EAST GERMANY CELEBRATES

By MICHAEL FARR in East Berlin

EAST GERMANY'S celebration of its 35th anniversary reached a climax yesterday amid reports that the number of East German refugees cooped up in the West German embassy in Prague could be as high as 140.

Goose-stepping formations of steel-helmeted troops marched through the centre of East Berlin with Prussian precision in a massive military display marking the anniversary.

They were followed down the Karl-Marx-Allee by artillery, armour, and rocketry and overhead formations of Mig-24 helicopter gunships.

Tens of thousands of East Germans were bussed in to watch the spectacle of military might.

The parade was reviewed by Herr Honcker, the East German leader, with Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, appropriately at his right hand side and East bloc dignitaries around him.

Representatives of the Western Allies boycotted the ceremony and later protested that it was an infringement of the city's demilitarised status and that the helicopter display was contrary to airspace agreements.

Meanwhile in Prague, Czechoslovak police intervened at the weekend for the first time since the invasion of the West German embassy by East German refugees surrounding the baroque building and checking the papers of passers-by.

Inside the embassy grounds West German frontier police were imported to prevent refugees from entering the back.

The number of East Germans inside the building demanding a passage to the West could be as high as 140, including more than 20 children.

There was no sign of progress yesterday in the difficult East-West German negotiations to end the embassy drama with East Berlin still refusing to grant the refugees exit visas to the West.

The timing of the embassy occupation is highly unfortunate for East Germany which has made "The German Democratic Republic is My Home" the theme of its 35th anniversary celebrations.

TV viewers in East Germany were faced at the weekend with a choice between reports of the latest developments in Prague on West German TV which 70 per cent of them can receive and East German TV's event-by-event description of the anniversary festivities.

East Germany's loyalty to

Moscow has been a feature of the celebrations with posters and placards of President Chernenko underlining East Germany's alliance with the Soviet Union.

Herr Honcker, whose planned first visit to West Germany last month was blocked by the Kremlin, cut out conciliatory references apparent in recent statements in his celebratory address on Saturday and gave an undertaking that East Germany was "a reliable pillar" of the Warsaw Pact.

The only relations possible were those between sovereign States and the sooner Bonn realised this the better, he said, adding that the German question — the reunification of the two countries — was not open.

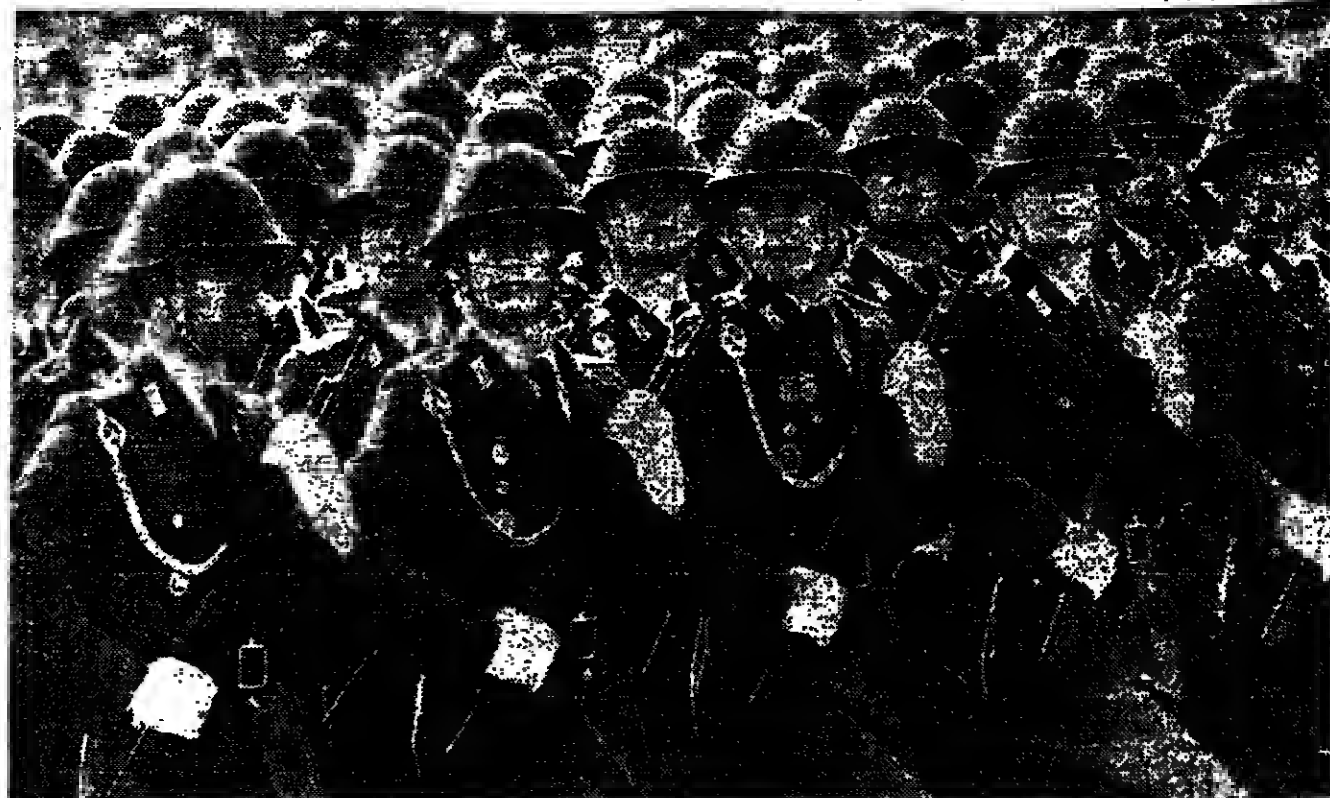
Serious talks

Mr Gromyko criticised West Germany for trying to absorb East Germany and said that the division agreed at Yalta and Potsdam was unalterable.

The veteran Soviet Foreign Minister, making his first public statement since his recent meeting with President Reagan, attacked Washington for not being ready for serious talks on arms control. Soviet proposals for a demilitarisation of space had received a negative response, he said.

But Mr Gromyko added that when the United States was really interested then the Soviet Union would be "ready to conduct an honest and open dialogue".

After the speeches Herr Honcker, Mr Gromyko, members of the East German leadership and visiting delegations were treated to the sight of more than 300,000 members of the Communist youth movement marching through the city centre by torchlight. "Long Live the GDR our Socialist Fatherland," read a typical banner.



East German troops on the march in East Berlin's Karl Marx Avenue yesterday to celebrate the communist republic's 35th birthday.

Visits end freeze on Poland

By DAVID ADAMSON

Diplomatic Correspondent

POLAND'S return to

respectability in the

eyes of Western Europe,

will be given official seals

of approval by foreign

ministers from Britain,

West Germany and Italy,

visiting Warsaw before the

end of the year.

Mr Riffkind, Foreign Office

Minister, will spend four days

in Poland at the beginning of

next month, though this has yet

to be officially announced. Herr Genscher, West German Foreign Minister, and Signor Andreotti of Italy are to pay similar visits.

A ban on ministerial visits has been one of Western Europe's remaining two sanctions against Poland. The other, a ban on export credit guarantees, will be lifted shortly.

The move towards ending sanctions began in July when Gen. Jaruzelski lifted martial law, imposed three years ago, and gave amnesties to a number of political prisoners.

The visit to Poland this month of Mr Papandreu, Greece's Left-wing Prime Minister, is in a different category. His Government refused to join the Nato boycott of Poland.

The Western European countries, never particularly enthusiastic about sanctions against Poland, have moved ahead of the United States.

The Americans, who want a total amnesty for political prisoners, are maintaining some sanctions including a ban on Poland joining the International Monetary Fund.

'Magic Flute' for Kohl in Peking

By HUGH DAVIES
in Peking

THE Peking Opera was briefly replaced by, to Chinese ears, the less familiar "Magic Flute" by Mozart last night as the 185-strong Bavarian State Opera Company began seven performances in the capital at the outset of a visit by Chancellor Kohl of West Germany.

With traditional drama deemed propaganda of the feudal classes during the Cultural Revolution, theatre in all its forms is now being actively encouraged. Once again, a cultural link with the outside world are reasonably high in the list of the Communist regime's priorities.

A recent West German tour by the Shanghai puppet show troupe, together with the drama "Tea House," had helped "sow the seeds of China's friendship and enhanced mutual understanding," the New China News Agency reported.

Herr Kohl is to attend a gala night at the opera tomorrow after what are expected to be extremely friendly talks with the Chinese leadership.

This is the first trip to Peking by a Chancellor since 1975, although statements like Herr Willy Brandt, Social Democrat party chairman, are frequent visitors.

Public pledge

Bonn made sure of a warm welcome by publicly pledging a week ago that it will continue to ban official contacts with Taiwan. The Chinese were doubtless also pleased to read the passenger manifest of Herr Kohl's Lufthansa Boeing 707 as it touched down.

A Cologne magistrate later committed him to an undisclosed remand jail, where he awaits trial on a number of charges arising from his neo-Nazi activities.

Kühnen founded the National Socialist Action Front in 1979 with the aim of forming a movement along the lines of Hitler's Nazis. Shortly afterwards he was sentenced to four years imprisonment for incitement.

He was released in 1982 and one year later his organisation was banned by the West German Interior Ministry. At that time, it was estimated to have 270 members.

In the past year, prosecutors in Hamburg, Frankfurt, Brunswick and Flensburg issued warrants for his arrest on charges of distributing banned neo-Nazi literature, but Kühnen fled first to Switzerland and then to France.

In Bavaria, meanwhile, a small market town is preparing to play host next weekend to a reunion of SS veterans.

The old soldiers — former members of the feared SS police armoured grenadier division — are going ahead with their plans to meet in Markttheidenfeld, in Lower Franconia, despite a rising wave of opposition to the reunion.

The division is held responsible for a number of war time atrocities, particularly in Greece, where it allegedly razed a village to the ground and massacred 1,200 inhabitants.

The division is held responsible for a number of war time atrocities, particularly in Greece, where it allegedly razed a village to the ground and massacred 1,200 inhabitants.

The long-running dispute between orchestra and conductor centred on von Karajan's support for Herr Peter Girth who was sacked as the orchestra's manager in June.

There was also a clash over von Karajan's insistence on giving a clarinetist, Sabine Meyer, a year's trial despite her rejection by the orchestra. She left earlier this year before completing her trial period.

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Gallup Poll

PIT STRIKE SLICES AWAY POPULARITY OF THATCHER

DESPITE their lead in party support in the opinion polls, there is little comfort for the Conservatives in the latest Gallup Poll conducted exclusively for THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

Only on the issues of defence, and law and order, for example, does approval of Government policies outweigh disapproval.

To highlight the problem, a year ago the public was, on balance, approving of the Government's handling of strikes and labour relations. Today, a majority disapproves.

Indeed, on the specific issue of the miners' dispute, the public is dismissive of the efforts of the key figures—Mrs Thatcher, Mr Kinnock, Labour leader, Mr MacGregor, Coal Board chairman, and Mr Scargill, miners' president.

Miners' dispute

Gallup asked people whether their impression of Mrs Thatcher had gone up or down over her handling of the miners' dispute, as well as asking the same question about Mr Kinnock, Mr MacGregor and Mr Scargill. The results were:

	Thatcher	Kinnock	MacGregor	Scargill
Gone up	18	35	39	69
Gone down	38	45	40	19
No change	42	11	10	4
Don't know	2			

People were also asked whether they approved or disapproved of the way the Government was handling each of fourteen issues, and the highest shift is on strikes and labour relations.

The table below shows an approval index, where a "+" figure signifies the size of the majority for approval, and a "-" figure signifies the reverse:

	Thatcher	Kinnock	MacGregor	Scargill
Law and order	+7	+14	+18	+5
Defence and armaments	+4	+5	+2	+17
The Common Market	-2	-5	+5	+17
Immigration	-12	-10	+1	+11
Housing	-10	-5	-6	-1
Economic and financial affairs generally	-12	-9	-8	+1
Cost of living and prices	-25	-17	-19	-13
Roads	-25	-17	-12	-25
Taxation	-28	-32	-30	-27
Strikes and labour relations	-29	-8	-4	+10
Old age pensions	-36	-21	-24	-21
Education	-37	-31	-32	-33
Full employment	-55	-54	-56	-51
The Health Service	-60	-44	-53	-56

The Government has majority approval among Conservatives on 10 of the issues, but has a net disapproval index on three others: roads (-1), full employ-

also in the rather unusual position of being seen as less united than previously.

Currently, 46 per cent. think the party is united, but 42 per cent. see it as divided. A year ago, the figures were 61 per cent. and 24 per cent. respectively.

There have also been other deteriorations over the past year in the public's attitude towards the Conservative party.

Compared with a year ago, more people think that Mrs Thatcher should change her economic policies.

Now, 25 per cent. accept Mrs Thatcher's view that she must not change her policies because they are right, but 69 per cent. think they should be changed.

Last year the figures were 31 per cent. and 63 per cent. respectively.

The majority, 59 per cent., think that the economic situation could be solved if a government really tried to apply the right measures, but 31 per cent. feel that the economic problem is one that no government can really solve.

People are also becoming less optimistic than they were a year ago, as measured by replies to the question:

"In the long term do you think that the Conservative Government's policies will mean that the economic situation will get better, will get worse, or will remain the same?"

Get better 29 36
Get worse 38 32
Same 27 27
Don't know 6 5

This trend may have some connection with the 45 per cent. who think that the Conservative party is becoming less concerned "for the interests of people like yourself."

Eleven per cent. think the party is becoming more concerned, 40 per cent. see no change, and three per cent. are undecided.

Similarly 33 per cent. think the Conservative party is becoming less responsible in its approach to the important issues facing Britain, 17 per cent. think it is becoming more responsible, and 46 per cent. see no change.

A year ago, opinion was more evenly balanced, with 25 per cent. saying more responsible and 27 per cent. less responsible.

This latest Gallup Poll was conducted between Sept. 26 and Oct. 1, among a nationally representative quota sample of 980 electors in more than 100 districts throughout Britain.

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STATION CLEAN-UP

By Our Transport Correspondent

Ipswich station is to be cleaned and modernised. It will get a larger booking hall and a new travel centre.



School music bequest

—with strings

By JOHN SHAW

A FORMER librarian at Oundle School, Northants, has left £100,000 in her will to help the school finance music scholarships in her name.

Miss Avice Wood, known to generations of boys as "Woodie" or "Ma Hogany", was a keen musician and played viola in the school orchestra for 40 years.

A graduate of Girton College, Cambridge, she originally joined the staff to teach and care for the girls who worked in the boarding houses at Oundle.

Plann bequest

Her duties were extended and she was assistant librarian for 22 years, and then became librarian for seven years, a post she held until retirement in 1956. She died last May, aged 90.

Miss Wood helped found the Oundle Town Choral Society and was an accomplished pianist. Both her viola and piano have been left to the school in her £119,378 net will (£120,043 gross).

Mr Andrew Bidpath, the bursar, said yesterday: "The money will be used to establish a scholarship in her name to provide income for one boy each year to study a stringed instrument."

Latest Wills—P14

Lock in—Miss Dora Pearce, 51, and Mrs Stephanie Luker, 21, on the inside looking out of the jewellery shop in Swindon.

Redundancies sit-in at jewellery shop

By COLIN RANDALL

THE accountancy firm of Lord Bruce of Doonington, Labour's Treasury spokesman in the Lords, is to consider today how to resolve a redundancy dispute which has left two women locked inside a jewellery shop, whose affairs are managed by the peer's business.

Miss Dora Pearce, 51, the manageress, and Mrs Stephanie Luker, 21, her assistant, began a sit-in on Friday when the shop where they both worked, Goldfinger, in Swindon's town-centre, ceased trading.

Lord Bruce's firm, Halpern and Woolf, sent in locksmiths to change the locks and although the women have been given opportunities to leave once daily since the occupation began, they otherwise have no access to the keys.

Halpern and Woolf was appointed by the courts nearly three years ago to manage the affairs of a Swindon jeweller, Mr Dingo Bennett, who owned the shop, but died without making a will.

Miss Pearce, who worked for the business for 19 years, estimates that she is entitled to £5,000 in redundancy and holiday pay, while Mrs Luker, who was entitled to the same, was not.

Money owed in VAT and PAYE payments are far in excess of the expected balance and they rank alongside the entitlement of the employee.

Mr Terry Wellstood, senior partner at the Oxford office of Lord Bruce's firm, said that despite Miss Pearce's claim to the contrary, the business was not profitable, but had "massive debts and very little assets."

When Halpern & Woolf was appointed, "Money owed in VAT and PAYE payments are far in excess of the expected balance and they rank alongside the entitlement of the employee."

said Mr Wellstood. "He understood, however, that there was Government provision to meet the payment to which the women were entitled."

Trip from kirk to the Sabbath TSB delights Scots

THE first bank in Britain to open on Sunday drew queues of customers yesterday. Their general reaction: "A fantastic idea."

The Trustee Savings Bank branch in Edinburgh's West Cameron Toll shopping centre threw open its doors from noon until 4 p.m.

It is offering a full service, including the opportunity to discuss loans with the manager, 32 year old Mr Stewart Cumming.

The branch began operating last Tuesday, and is already opening on Saturdays from 8.30 a.m. until 5 p.m. It has attracted some 350 accounts so far.

The first customers yesterday was Mrs Christine Lister, who thought it was "a great idea," particularly because it allows husbands and wives to see their bank manager together without interfering with their work.

A Church of Scotland pressure group has condemned the idea and accused the TSB of being "the Sabbath breakers."

But Mrs Lister said: "You can still go to church and come to the bank—it's up to people themselves."

Religious employees

One customer, Mr Christopher Casely, 35, in fact came straight from church with his wife Su and their two children, to open a savings account.

He said: "It's a great idea, especially if you're shopping on a Sunday. I don't think there's any problem attending church and the shopping."

The bank said it had taken into consideration the concern of the church, because many employees are church elders and treasurers. The Sunday opening hours allow customers to use facilities without it interfering with morning and evening services.

A spokesman said: "I think other banks will be watching this pilot scheme very carefully. We're not planning Sunday openings at other branches, but are keeping our eyes open."

An "enormous number of volunteer staff" want to work on a Sunday. They get no special payment.

RAIL CLOSURE FEAR

Fears that Government economic will force closure of the rail line from Birmingham Moor Street to Stratford on Avon via Henley in Arden has led to the formation of a "North Warwick Line Defence Committee" which is lobbying M.P.s.

PARENTS 'UNAWARE OF GOVERNORS'

By SARAH THOMPSON

Education Staff

ONE parent in four does not know that their child's school has a governing body, and two out of three do not know that they are represented by parent governors, the Welsh Consumer Council has found.

A survey of 400 parents supporting the council's response to Education Secretary, Sir Keith Joseph's proposals for putting parents in the majority on school governing bodies also shows that 12 per cent. know how parent governors at their children's schools were chosen.

The council found that "where parent governors are elected, this does not automatically produce a high level of awareness of school government" contrary to expectations.

"Unless steps are taken to inform parents better, plans to give them more say in school government will be useless."

At the same time the National Federation of Women's Institutes announced that the proposals would "undermine the position of head teachers and staff, who have a better knowledge of the overall needs of their schools."

Typical response

The Women's Institutes were against giving governors more say in curricula, discipline and internal school affairs such as staff management and buying of equipment.

The response was typical of the flood of criticisms which have engulfed the Green Paper, "Parental Influence At School," since its publication in May.

Not one group or organisation spoke in favour of parent-majorities during a nationwide tour of Conservative associations and meetings with governors, teachers and parents which Mr Stuart Sexton, special advisor to Sir Keith Joseph, has just completed.

"I have the impression," said Mr Sexton yesterday, "that people feel we are right to try to raise standards by involving parents in schools, but that they think we are going about it the wrong way."

ANOTHER EXPEDITION TO THE SOUTH POLE ON FOOT? GREAT SCOTT!

This year, Swan and Mear set out to follow in the footsteps of both Scott and Shackleton on their trek across Antarctica to the South Pole. And as with the original expeditions, Shell fuel and lubricants will be doing their bit.

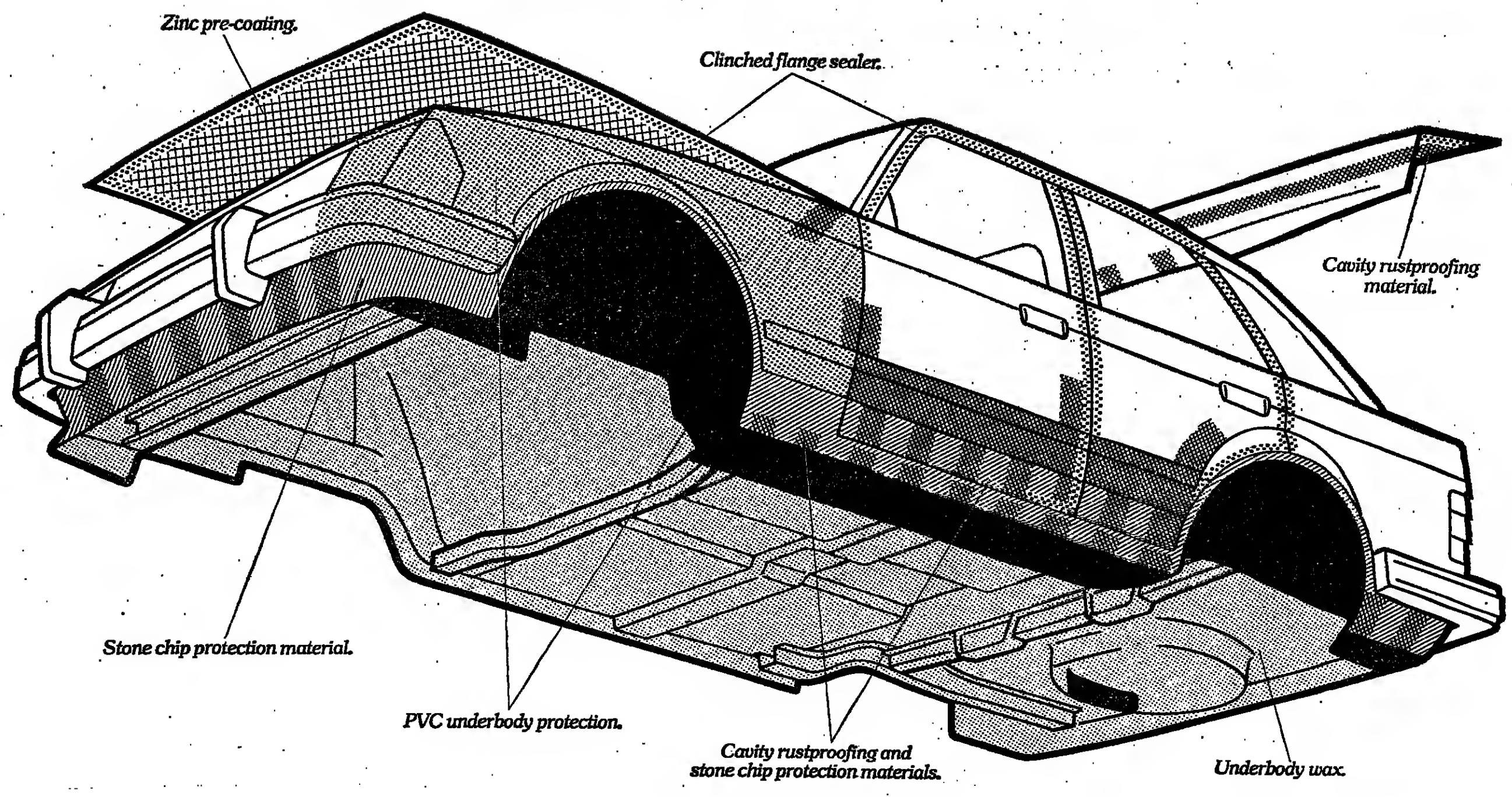
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SOARING DOLLAR MEANS RICH PICKINGS FOR EXPORTERS

By TONY ALLEN-MILLS in New York
and IAN BRODIE in Los Angeles

FROM purveyors of chunky marmalade to makers of giant engines, British exporters to America are reaping windfall profits as the dollar steadily advances against an ever-shrinking pound.

After a long spell in the doldrums the world's most powerful economy today offers rich pickings for British companies with the products and drive to succeed in a commercial market worth \$5,500 million to Britain last year.

With every dollar earned on the American side of the Atlantic converting more and more favourably to sterling at home. A survey by THE DAILY TELEGRAPH of British trade in America shows that profit margins on British-manufactured goods are exploding.

The survey also reveals that trading policies by successful British companies as they pocket burgeoning profits from the currency exchange bonanza. Some firms are simply re-investing dollars to Britain to improve their sterling balance sheets; others are significantly expanding their America-based operations.

But to the dismay of some trade experts only a very few are encouraging additional business by passing lower prices on to the customer.

More pounds for a raincoat

A perfect illustration of the pound's impact on profits is the Burberry raincoat. A highly popular garment that sells in America for \$975—exactly the same as two years ago.

In 1982, when the pound was worth \$1.70, every raincoat earned Burberry's threefold of \$397. Today, with the pound at \$1.25, the identical raincoat

contrasts with the company's difficulties of a few years ago. "At one stage we were losing money on every car we sold," said Mr. Reg Abhis at the company's New Jersey headquarters.

Now the increased value of the dollar has helped us to obtain price stability here after years of rocketing prices.

This year Rolls has been selling around 100 cars a month at prices starting close to £80,000.

For British clothing and home furnishings firms, 1984 has been marked by energetic expansion.

Neither Burberry's nor Laura Ashley, another firm branching out rapidly across America, contemplates lowering prices to pass increased profits to the customer.

A similarly cautious pricing policy emerges among British traders in California, but according to Mr. Anthony Thompson, chairman of the British-American Chamber of Commerce in Los Angeles, the exporters are making a tragic mistake.

He says they could sharply increase their volume of trade with lower prices. "My view is that the makers of British consumer products are not passing the advantages along to the customers," Mr. Thompson said.

Certainly retail prices have stabilised, but there's been no reduction of prices in relation to the dropping pound. Many firms have pegged their prices at \$1.60 to the pound.

Struck by lack of bargains

The West Coast is a lucrative market. Last year British imports into California were worth \$212.9 million.

This year there have been two promotions of British goods in "up-market" stores in Los Angeles, the first during Prince Andrew's visit in April and the second last month attended by the Lord Mayor of London, Dame Mary Donaldson.

Visitors to both presentations were struck by the lack of bargains. It seemed as if prices remained stubbornly inflexible despite the sinking pound.

As examples, Ballantyne Scottish cashmere sweaters were selling for \$214 (£171). Ashley and Blake cotton shirts ("by appointment to the Duke of Edinburgh") for \$65 (£52) and woulien Aquascutum women's coats for \$355 (£284).

The only items offered at lower prices at last month's pro-

motion were five-piece-place settings of Wedgwood dinnerware, reduced from \$195 (£156) to \$156 (£125).

One explanation for the stiff prices was that the British goods were displayed in shops which normally have a high mark-up. Apparently some British companies with famous names want to avoid the risk of losing long-term prestige by putting their goods into cheaper stores.

A famous magnet in Los Angeles for many thousands of expatriate Britons in search of Marmite, Polo mints and other reminders of home, is the Continental shop run by Mr. Brian Clewer.

He reported: "I carry 2,000 individual items from Britain, and not one single supplier of mine has sent out a mailer that because of the pound coinage they are able to cut their costs. In fact, the trend has been upwards."

"Whom do you blame? The importing companies for taking extra profit or the manufacturers for not monitoring what their importers are up to?"

A windfall for British Rail

Mr. Clewer also runs a travel agency that provides a clear-cut example of British Rail taking advantage of the declining pound.

A year ago, seven-day British Rail passes bought by Americans going to Britain on holiday were \$115. They cost the same today, with the result that British Rail collects now £92 on each ticket instead of £76.

Ooe wholesale importer, however, insisted that he was dropping prices and passing advantages along to retailers, which should soon be reflected on shop shelves.

Mr. Andrew McKee, founder and managing director of Piccadilly Imports in Los Angeles, said: "I'm buying wholesale in pounds, which I get at a good rate, and giving the savings to retailers. It's up to them whether they choose to pass it on."

He gave details. Hartley's jams will go down from \$11.10 (£8.81) for six 12-ounce jars to \$10.08 (£8.07). Robinson's Barley Water will drop from \$24.56 (£19.49) for 12 bottles to \$23.15 (£18.52). But neither of these reductions quite matches the percentage of the recent drop in the pound.



Dr. Tony Batchelor, "Hot rocks" project director, standing on the site in West Cornwall.

Rig boost in search for 'hot rocks' energy

A HUGE rig has been built near Stithians, West Cornwall, as the latest step towards discovering whether intense heat at the Earth's core can be used to produce electricity.

The 10-year Department of Energy-sponsored search for a new energy source is nearly finished and the new rig is expected to give it a major boost.

Known as the geo-thermal energy project, it could prove the viability of passing water through hot granite and recovering electricity.

"This is a very exciting time for us. We are on the verge of proving that hot rocks can be an economic source of energy," Dr. Tony Batchelor, project director, said.

The new rig, which was transported through Cornwall in 55 sections and now dominates the skyline, will dig 2,800 metres — one-and-a-half-quarter miles — towards the earth's centre, reaching temperatures approaching boiling point.

"Temperatures of twice that will be needed to generate electricity on a major scale," Dr. Batchelor said, "but the present test rig would prove the economic viability."

"We know that we can produce electricity from hot rocks, but we need to prove it will be economic."

The scheme works by drilling two wells. Dynamite is used to fracture the granite between them, and cold water is then pumped at pressure down the injection well.

It passes through the cracked granite, being heated all the time, and is then pumped up from the recovery well.

Target depth

"Geo-thermal energy is by no means new, but it has never been used in this country and on such a scale as we envisage," said Dr. Batchelor.

The project, run by the Camborne School of Mines, has a deadline of 1986, by which time it will have cost £20 million.

The new rig should reach its target depth by next January. The project has created world-wide interest in mining circles and a viewing enclosure has been created to cater for spectators.

In its first week the new rig has attracted about 300 observers a day.

BRITANNY PLANS NEW FERRY TO NORMANDY

By Our Shipping Correspondent

Brittany Ferries disclosed last night that it is to start a new route from Portsmouth to Caen, in Normandy, with up to six crossings a day.

But Brittany will not be able to bring its passenger and cargo route to Caen into use until the Spring of 1986 because it means practically building a new port at Ouistreham, the sea outlet.

"But it promises significant benefits over existing western Channel services," said Mr. Ian Carruthers, U.K. director. "The main A15 dual carriageway road to Paris starts at Caen. There are also excellent roads south to the Loire Valley."

LAST MAIL FOR CHRISTMAS

The Post Office emphasises that Friday Oct. 12 is the latest recommended posting date for Christmas cards, letters and parcels being sent by ship to destinations including Hong Kong, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia and the United Arab Emirates. Later dates in December previously announced, apply to air-mail items.

Other countries with the same deadline for surface mail are: Bahrain, Bhutan, Bolivia, Colombia, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, French Guiana, Gambia, Ghana, Guyana, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mauritius, Nigeria, Oman, Paraguay, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Syria, Tanzania, Venezuela and Yemen.

GAS SHUTS PUB

A village pub closed after 500 years last night, because methane gas keeps seeping into the cellar. Experts have tried for four years to cure the problem, at the Coadestick, Mapperley, Derbyshire, which stands over disused mine workings.

£2m turnover of shipyard run by redundant men

By GEORGE TURNBULL

EIGHTY men, who invested their skills and redundancy money in reopening a Tyneside ship repair yard, this week celebrate their first anniversary as a trading company with a turnover of more than £2 million for the year.

While this may only represent a "break even" figure for the yard, it is far in excess of what the men, who own and work at Readheads Ship Repairs, South Shields, expected.

And it represents an unparalleled go-it-alone success in an industry, which under the control of nationalised British Shipbuilders, had been declining for years on the North East coast.

The start of how the "gang of 80" decided to reinvest £110,000 of their pay off money from British Shipbuilders to buy the yard, rather than face life on the dole is now part of Tyneside legend.

But their battle to wrest the yard from a reluctant B.S. coupled with opposition from unions, M.P.s and competitors, has been matched by their determination to run the business and pride back to the Tyneside once renowned for its repair expertise — and to restore the reputation of Readheads.

Healthy order book

They are succeeding where many thought they would fail. The men are paying for the yard on a seven-year lease with the option to buy at any time. Mr. Richardson would not disclose the purchase price, but it is less than the £300,000 that British Shipbuilders once put on the yard.

Readheads does not only employ its own 80 shareholders; the workforce averages between 100-120 men, and as many as 210 were employed on the container ship operation.

The biggest outlay the men have had was £70,000 needed to get the yard back into working condition after it had been stripped by British Shipbuilders and vandalised by locals.

But nobody, least of all Mr. Richardson, expected so much business in their first year. Their original projection was a turnover of £140,000. This was increased to a potential £1,200,000 in February, but in fact for the first year just ended, turnover was £2,000,000.

It was done in six weeks something British shipbuilders could never have matched," he said.

Nevertheless, he contracted out to B.S. at Sunderland, the job of actually building the large steel section to be inserted into the ship.

"It might have seemed a bit cheeky," he admitted, "but in this case they were the best people for the job."

Mr. Richardson was elected to his post by the men after being hired away from a Tyneside marine services company in which he was a partner and still remains a director.

A man of considerable marine experience he is thriving on the challenge at Readheads even though he is probably earning less than half of what he could elsewhere.

"Our intention is to promote the river and bring repair work back to the Tyne, also of course to keep our shareholders — the gang of 80 — in employment."

"Eighty per cent of the work we have had in the past year have been vessels which would have gone to the Continent."

"Repair work is a highly specialised field, but at the same time requires a personal touch that is appreciated by the shipowners, but cannot be found to big concerns like B.S."

"Ship owners moved to Europe because of the lack of enthusiasm 'oo this river but now the men are better managed, prepared to work and the business is coming back."

Some measure of the success of Readheads personal touch is butchery.

that already shipowners have been back to the yard two or three times in the last 12 months and Mr. Richardson has no doubts about the future for it.

While the yard is a union closed shop, although it is not yet recognised by the local Confederation of Shipbuilding Unions, there are no problems with outstanding payments.

"There is certainly a possibility in the very near future that it might be taken over by B.S.," Mr. Richardson said.

All transactions are £120,000 and Mr. Richardson has paid out £1 million in wages in the past year.

"That's quite a nice boost for the local economy which would not have been there but for the enterprise of the men in this yard," he said.

Overseas are kept to a minimum at Readheads and there are no fills at "board level." Lunch for directors and visitors alike is inevitably brought in from the nearby transport cafe.

The men are paying for the yard on a seven-year lease with the option to buy at any time. Mr. Richardson would not disclose the purchase price, but it is less than the £300,000 that British Shipbuilders once put on the yard.

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Britain 'must join U.S. space station project'

By Air Cdre G. S. COOPER Air Correspondent

BRITAIN must put a foot in the door of America's international space station or forget about the potential benefits of space research, scientists have told Mr. Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State for Industry and Technology and Information.

Ministers have two months to take a decision on investing up to £500 million in the £16 billion project, due to be operational early in the 1990s.

This would be 15 per cent of the anticipated European contribution. The U.S. has so far allocated £8 billion for a six-man station. It is planned to expand it progressively into a much bigger station with a crew of 18 by the year 2010.

The European Space Agency has agreed in principle to support the programme, but extent of participation by member states has to be settled at a meeting in January.

Britain is expected to promise a token investment, but would keep open the option of fuller participation when more is known about the cost benefits of the project.

Potential uses of the manned space station fall into four classes:

1. Exploiting the microgravity and vacuum environment for experimental or commercial purposes.

2. Using the station or a co-orbiting platform as a permanent satellite.

3. Using it to test technologies for later use in other satellites.

4. Using it to service satellites.

Space processing

Microgravity research has been carried out in space since 1971, using the low gravity which cannot be matched on Earth for any length of time.

The first commercial products may become available in the next few years; these are likely to be pharmaceuticals produced by the technique of electrophoresis.

However, metallurgy and electronics also have high value products which could benefit from processing in space.

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"...the car described by
Which? magazine as the best
overall for reliability is the
German-made Volkswagen Polo."

DOUGLAS CAMERON, LBC NEWS RADIO, 5TH OCTOBER 1984

It was no news to Polo owners.



FARMER'S DIARY

Soldiering along the milky way

JAMES GLADSTONE on dairy quotas

IT SEEMED a straight-forward step towards solving Europe's surplus milk problem when it was introduced six months ago—every dairy farmer would be allowed to produce a set amount of milk and be fined for every litre above that limit which left the farm.

The Ministry of Agriculture told every producer what his quota for the year was to be, promised to listen to pleas for special treatment and announced a compensation scheme for those who preferred to stop milking. Immediately the complications and distortions which government interference always brings began.

The quota—the permission to produce a certain amount of milk—was obviously valuable. Was it transferable? It was, belonging to an individual or was it linked to a specific farm or part of a farm? One Midlands farmer planned to sell just 1.4 592,000-litre quota and in no time people were talking of paying £65,000 for the package.

Mr Michael Jopling, the Minister of Agriculture, moved quickly to put an end to that idea with a reminder that "any such transactions would clearly be irregular according to the Community's current rules," although it is hard to understand what harmful effect on the E.C.'s milk surplus would be produced by a free market in quotas.

What about a lease, then? The answer seems to be that that is acceptable, provided the quota is tied to a sensible acreage. Opinions vary on what is considered "sensible." In Ulster it is reckoned to be about one cow an acre whereas in Wales agents are working on up to two cows an acre. The Ministry will not be drawn into a ruling.

The demand for land with quota is localised, in many parts, particularly Wales, there are few interested buyers and there can hardly be a small dairy farmer in the Principality who would not accept a reasonable offer for his land.

The next problem is that about half the nation's dairy farmers think of themselves as "special cases" and have struggled through a set of particularly horrendous Ministry forms to apply for special treatment.

On my Galloway farm, my partner has claimed that we should be allowed 100 litres a day more than our current allocation because we were not getting full production from a Ministry-approved expansion scheme when the restrictions were introduced. These special cases are now being assessed by local tribunals and panels appointed by the Ministry.

Ten per cent of dairy farmers have applied to go out of milk altogether. The Ministry has promised in pay every litre of quota relinquished, the payments to be spread over five years. Mr Jopling has said there is a maximum £50 million available for this, which means he has the money to pay compensation for 384 million litres, or, unhelpfully, the 4,350 people who want to get out of dairying produce about 1,000 million litres between them.

It looks as if the Ministry's answer will be to buy out the smaller producers—say those with less than 40 cows—and the remainder will have to soldier on.

The problems mount when the farmer is a tenant who wants to stop milking and is tempted to do so by the prospect of a five-year "pension" from the government. Once the land he farms has lost the quota attached to it, its value to the landlord is correspondingly reduced.

Devon County Council, for instance, has refused to allow its 169 dairy smallholdings tenants to give up milk. The argument is two-fold: first, that the council has invested heavily in dairying equipment on the holdings and, secondly, that the quota should be retained for future tenants.

Of course, farmers are not the only ones affected by the new system—although they are the only ones to have the choice of government assistance if they wish to give up.

The farm sits on top of a pyramid of manufacturers and suppliers who all depend for their business on the prosperity of dairying. Most obviously affected are the milk processors, the farmer's customers who are supplied through the milk boards. This summer, for example, there was a 25 per cent drop in the amount of milk available for butter manufacture which accounted for a sudden increase in imported butter in the shops.

The Milk Marketing Board always gives priority to liquid milk supply; quotas were imposed just before the signing of contracts to supply cheese to South America, the Caribbean and Japan; they were never taken to completion because of the milk board's manufacturing arm, anticipated that the milk would not be available.

However, it looks as if nationally, Britain will not exceed its quota, which could mean that farmers may not have to pay the threatened "super-levy" even if they have exceeded their own individual limits. Meanwhile, the figures from the MMB's 108-sample specialist dairy farms paint a bleak picture. Profits on these highly capitalised businesses have fallen to an average £784 in the past 12 months and liabilities increased to more than £80,000 a farm.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS

Now property gets in on the act

QUIETLY, with a minimum of fuss, five London theatres have just changed hands in a £2.05 million deal. Four of them are handsome West End houses on prime sites: Wyndham's in Charing Cross Road, the Criterion and the Piccadilly, in Piccadilly Circus, and the Albery in St Martin's Lane. The fifth is the little Donmar Warehouse, in St Giles, a chic fringe venue.

The sellers were a newspaper publishing group outside the industry. The buyers, however, are well-known play-producers, currently responsible for staging the £220,000 musical "Pump Boys and Dinettes" and lately the well-reviewed Edgar Wallace thriller "On the Spot"—which, however, flopped. They are still watching the profits roll in from their £30,000 promotion of Claire Luckham's "Trafford Tana".

Now this, surely, is good news—that some theatres are moving out of the hands of bricks-and-mortar landlords with no daily first-hand participation in backstage and bringing new plays to birth, or whose once-active production activities they are responsible for keeping their houses in good order.

The pattern often is this: a lucky producer survives all the hazards of the job (four plays out of five can go under) then he buys a theatre or two out of his profits. He now finds he can comfortably sit back and let other producers take the risks and find shows for his houses. He can collect up to 20 per cent of the receipts from his tenants. Producers go bankrupt; landlords, never. London's biggest group of theatre owners, Stoll-Moss, do not often originate new work, though they may invest in it. One of Stoll-Moss's few house creations, the current Alan Bennett comedy "40 Years On," was put on by 68-year-old Toby Rowland, but he retires this month.

It is surely more healthy that theatres should be run by creative people. I was delighted when Andrew Lloyd Webber, composer of "Cats" and other hits, bought the magnificent Palace in Cambridge Circus. It was equally good to hear that Michael Codron, London's foremost independent producer of most independent productions, new plays (currently, Tom Stoppard's "The Real Thing," Michael Frayn's "Noises Off" and "Benefactors") is now

JOHN BARBER

NOTEBOOK

In defence of the talk shop



I HAVE just returned from Avignon where I attended the 26th annual conference of the International Institute for Strategic Affairs in the fortress palace of the 14th century Popes. Some 300 "strategists," with a strong American flavour, spent two and a half days worrying about "New Technology and the West's Security Policy."

The invitation to confer at some congenial spot, preferably in southern Europe and at the expense of a foundation of one kind or another, is one of the pleasures of the professional classes. Life, according to the novelist David Lodge, who has made the residential conference his own, can be spent cheerfully conferring, while one of my favourite books is Arthur Koestler's "The Call Girls," which recounts to great effect the sexual, intellectual and gastronomic goings-on of sage and savant. Not that the IISA conference could serve as model for anything save

clever people thinking about the unthinkable. An American academic with whom I dined did tell me that there were four "worlds": the first, which is the "West"; the second, the Soviet Union; the Third, about which we should all feel guilty, and the Fourth, the freemasonry of international conference freeloaders.

The conference, which listened attentively to papers delivered by Walter Slocombe, who thinks for Walter Mondale, Fred S. Hoffman, Prof. Lawrence Freedman, Dr Peter J. Sharfman and others, divides itself into committees in order to study in depth certain aspects of defence.

If the theme of the conference was technology and its impact on East and West, a general view was that technology itself was neutral, with the proviso that many ran the risk of deluding themselves by believing that the advent of new munitions and weapons systems of a non-nuclear kind could change the balance of power in central Europe or, indeed, reduce our dependence on nuclear weapons. Those who advocate no first use of nuclear weapons and urge that greater emphasis be placed on the conventional defence of Europe (desirable, though both may be underestimated the effectiveness of the new weapons and underestimating their cost).

Nor can we ignore the political objections from the Germans in particular, who see a conventional defence of Europe as amounting to a licence to fight a conventional war. We should take care not to put greater weight on the new

technology than it can reasonably bear.

President Reagan's proposal of March 25 in which he urged that mutual assured destruction must prepare to give way to "assured survival" by the adoption of satellite-based weapons that would destroy incoming missiles, thus transferring primacy from the offence (missiles) to the defence (missiles and lasers), was promptly named "Star Wars" by the Press: a better description would be "SDI," initials which stand for Strategic Defence Initiative.

At Avignon there were those who thought the whole SDI initiative half-baked. Perhaps the wisest course for the American administration to pursue would be to continue research into "BMD" (ballistic missile defence) as a hedge against Soviet progress in that field, but the enormous cost of an SDI programme must not be permitted to diminish spending on more immediate and important matters. Many of the European participants felt that SDI would prove very divisive within the Western alliance, placing an unnecessary strain on it by risking the undoing of a sense of solidarity and shared risks. The burden of proof should be on America.

The matters which we discussed in Avignon are of vital importance to us all. The conference was rewarding, and, as it often the case, valuable for the friendships which it encourages among defence academics, bureaucrats who have a responsible role in matters of security, politicians and the better sort of journalist. And the insti-



tute has an unrivalled reputation in its field.

I have two caveats. Sir Philip Goodhart and I were the only two British MPs present, and it is the politician who provides the "clutch," which transmits the kind of expert advice available into Government action. There was a German Social Democrat, M. P. Herr Karsten Voigt, a Canadian Senator and a Swedish MP but that was all; five politicians out of 300 or so participants. It could be a matter of money.

My second grumble is language, or, more succinctly, what it is that American academics do to the English language. The more subtle the concept, advanced the greater the need for clarity. All too often I was straining to keep up, lost in a tangle of subordinate clauses, drunk from a surfeit of the most appalling jargon. But I am whistling in the wind. If Americans should speak English, then Germans should avoid "grundlich," which might be translated as the capacity to take great pains to little effect.

As for us English, we should resist the temptation to make jokes. Conferences are a way of life, and no laughing matter.

WINE

DENIS MORRIS

Watch out for this chateau de plonk

MANY special offers of wine are traps for the unwary. Often they contain something "recognisable" like a Liebfraumilch or Cotes du Rhone.

Sometimes they may feature two or three doubtful wines, one of which means nothing at all in law or breeding and a bottle or two of a well-known wine from a vintage that never made the grade.

For interest, I sometimes thumb through a number of catalogues checking up on the price of these wines when sold by the bottle or case, but almost always find it unrewarding as one is too often swamped by the anonymity of generic wines which could come from any of hundreds of thousands of properties whose quality is unpredictable.

To avoid being deceived one should obviously only deal with responsible firms, wine clubs or specialist importers. I am often asked how to find them. One advice is to consult "The Wine Guide," kept by many reference libraries. This does not claim to have discovered all the good firms but at least it lists 200 merchants it can warmly recommend and contains 200 pages of objective appreciation of scores of wine merchants, wine clubs and specialists throughout Britain. Any regular wine drinker without this guide is letting his palate and his pocket down.

Too late now for the 1984 Guide (1984-85): its successor could solve many Christmas present problems.

Incidentally, the minor chateau 78s are mostly ready for drinking but will certainly keep five years, the greater ones at least ten.

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WE FOLLOW THE FASHION TRAIL

BY
**SERENA
SINCLAIR**

SPRING in October? Skip the winter's blasts and stick with us as we explore the spring fashion news over the next three weeks. We're touring wide: Barcelona, Paris, Milan, London.

The advance hints speak of a strong fashion change, and at long last some cheerful colour, plus the great renewal of prints and the increasing texture excitement in fabrics.

The advance stories, which have already appeared on this page from the spring fashion shows in Düsseldorf and Helsinki, point to one of the most flattering seasons in years. Knowing what's coming up next will give

guidance and zest to your own buying for autumn and winter right now.

HINTS:

● Claude Montana, he of the enormous-shouldered silhouette, has totally dropped shoulder pads from his designs for spring.

● The short slim skirt looks like upsetting the fashion applecart all over the world.

● The Grace Kelly-inspired look will be the winner of hundreds of collections for spring.

HEADING FOR THE TOP...

EVEN the French are not so much snatching a little bit of British talent. On a recent visit to London to open his chic new Cond Street shop, Karl Lagerfeld was spotted in the less-expected reaches of Kensington looking at the young designs on show in Hyper Hyper. Here he fell for the crazy hats designed by Kirsten Woodward, just graduated from the London College of Fashion, and signed her up on the spot to design hats for his new collection.

RIGHT: The hat that Karl Lagerfeld fell for: a mammy-style turban with a tartan bow by Kirsten Woodward at Hyper Hyper.

ANN CHUBB



Young designers in demand as the buyers back Britain

LONDON fashion week starts on Thursday and promises to be our biggest British effort ever with a total of 30 fashion shows and more overseas buyers than ever before.

And it's the young London scene that the buyers want: outrageous street clothes that look fun to wear, fashions that go

hand-in-hand with the pop music scene; while wild accessories, mad make-up and hair-raising hairstyles are all very much part of the atmosphere that they have come to capture.

Here we preview the ranges of five of our brightest young designers whose ideas for next spring go on show this week.

Take Katherine Hammett for instance, who is one of our most influential fashion names, perhaps more for her ideas than the cunning of her cut. It was she who started the whole vogue for crumpled wash-and-wear cottons followed by even more crinkled wash-and-wear silks, and who then startled the Prime Minister no less, among others, with her mammoth slogan-embellished T shirt worn at Downing Street.

For next spring, she stays with the creased and crumpled cottons, ties huge shirts over huge T shirts complete with shirt tails, then knots a spare pair of trousers around the

For next spring, she predicts "mixed dressing with mixtures of colour, texture and pattern. I'm showing lots of pastels like ice blue, together with a bright, bright print of abstract flowers designed by Brian Bolger of The Cloth who did the prints for my last collection. Striped men's shirts, linen and bright prints are all mixed together in one outfit."

Helen Littman of English Eccentrics also started two years ago with a stall in Camden Lock-market side by side with Body Map, and was spotted for her stunning prints. Now she sells to Joseph and Browns in London, Macy's,

By ANN CHUBB

head, turban-style for the ultimate in utility clothing.

The Body-Map partnership of Stevie Stewart and David Holah started just two years ago with a stall in Camden Lock market.

Of their '85 collection Stevie Stewart says: "Lots of print and lots of colour. Lots of what we call cosmic nature prints with abstract animals. Muddles of mix and match with colours and prints. Barbie doll is a big inspiration with Barbie-print T-shirts and some very short dresses just like hers. Lots of ruffles too, mixing prints and colours on plain skirts."

Ex-Birmingham College of Art student Betty Jackson produced one of last season's very best collections which sells right around the country. After just two years with her own company, she won both the Cotton Designer of the Year award and the Woman Magazine Designer of the Year award in 1985.

Neiman Marcus and Saks Fifth Avenue in the States, and as her business has expanded she's been joined by her sister Judy and designer Clare Angel.

She says that the prints for her newest collection "have been inspired by Gaudi, the mad Spanish architect, and I went to Barcelona to take drawings from his mosaics. I was interested in the idea of fragmentation. Fragmented abstracts mix white, black, dark taupe with bright blue or red. The feeling is 'new exotic' with Ballet Russe sort of clothes, many inspired by Bakst with skirt trousers and little fez hats, all in handprinted silks."

German-born Joya from Zwei, part of the Hyper Hyper group, describes her spring collection as "very Grace Kelly, very Hollywood. But they're quite basic clothes really, very sexy and elegant and easy to wear. Colours are black, white, red, powder blue and gold lamé."



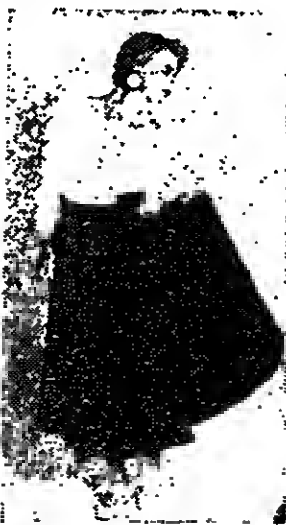
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ABOVE: Katherine Hammett's big big shirt in crumpled white cotton is knotted over a yellow cotton T shirt with a shirt tail. Yellow silk trousers are wrapped turban-style as they will be in her show later this week.

RIGHT: the Grace Kelly look from Zwei at Hyper Hyper. Wrap top in white jersey is teamed to a wide wrapped circle skirt of red cotton.

FAR RIGHT: the mannish look moves on—bigger and baggier than ever but less structured. Betty Jackson's huge striped cotton overshirt in pale blue and white is topped by roomy ice blue linen jacket.



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FASHION NOTEBOOK

WHILE Kensington's year-old Hyper Hyper goes from strength to strength as a showcase for young London fashion talent, Manchester has just acquired its own equivalent.

The Fashion Design Centre opened last week in the Royal Exchange Shopping Centre, providing a showcase for 19 bright young designers, all in their twenties. Now with the help of government and local authority grants they have a base in which to set up their own small businesses.

Standards are high—each tenant was hand-picked with the help of Peter Delahunty, head of Manchester Polytechnic's fashion department, and Bill Gibson, head of the Hollings Faculty's department of design and textile technology.

ANN CHUBB

Paris looks back to the long, lean 'Thirties

BELOW: The long, slim look to bold stripes of black and white. Knitted coat tops co-ordinating sweater and skirt. All from Ulysse shops from January.

BELOW RIGHT: The simple undetailed cotton shirt, this one in crisp stripes of rose pink and white, back buttoned. Available from the spring collection of Gaston Lauer.

OUR Paris preview of the French ready-to-wear collections for next year reveals a strong 'Thirties' look.

Outlines are long and lean but usually unfitted. Long, loose jackets are layered over almost ankle-length skirts; dresses are sometimes worn loose over wide, ultra-long culottes; long droopy cardigans are teamed with long skirts with hemline interest; and

By Ann Chubb

dresses — when they're not straight and shift-like — often have long, torso lines.

Colours, too, are often 'Thirties' pale: shades of soft beige or pale rose pink. It is an early spring look that calls out for pale tights, flat shoes, head-

wraps and long strings of pearls.

Perversely, the French have a feel for the 'Fifties' with other outfits featuring swirling circle skirts, front-tied shirts and waists cinched with wide belts.

The mannish look is still strong, too, but in a far less aggressive form than before. Big man-styled jackets are less structured and usually unfitted.



ABOVE: The mannish look that continues into spring but on softer, unstructured lines. Trouser suit in black and white checks has an unlined shirt-style jacket with side slits and slightly wider trousers. The shirt beneath is in soft, knitted silk with pale silk collar. All by Georges Rech from British shops in January.

Pictures by KENNETH MASON

IN STEP WITH THE HIGHLAND FLING

AS tartan fever gathers momentum, the stores are stocking up with a marvellous array of accessories to mix or match for the ultimate Highland fling — everything from earrings to tights.

For the more conservative a touch of tartan adds instant update to classic clothes: a tie for instance, to add dash to a simple white shirt, or a giant shawl to swirl around a tailored suit.

In our sketch by Liza Hadjidakis, from left to right: wool gloves £4.95, tie £5.95, leather-trimmed sporran-style shoulder bag £23.95, huge wool shawl £45, tartan tights £5.50. All in assorted tartans from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

A.C.



FASHION NOTEBOOK

JEAN TURNS OUT HER TREASURES

IN the unlikely street of warehouses and small businesses where Jean Muir has her workshop she has now opened a small retail shop to sell the unusual lengths of her marvellous fabrics — it is a treasure trove for loon dressmakers.

For on sale at startlingly low prices is a huge collection of fabrics which Miss Muir has built up over decades. There is a selection on the shelves but the very helpful sales assistant

will bring out from under the counter wonderful sample boxes of fabrics which can be brought up from the basement.

The selection varies from the heavy wool herringbones that Miss Muir uses for her tailored coats through lighter wools and summer cottons to floppy-textured knit fabrics and the lightest silk satins and crisp de-chines, many with her distinctive prints and all of superb quality. Then there are the

famous silky jerseys, in a full colour spectrum.

Prices start at £3 per metre for cotton, with plain wools from only £6 and plain silk and jersey at £7.

Exquisite evening fabrics are £10 per metre and the dearest, silk taffeta, is £15. The Jean Muir Fabric Shop is at Farringdon Road, London EC1, and is open Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

AVRIL GROOM

show you that exercise and diet really do work wonders.

What I particularly like about this video is that it contains a complete range of exercises helpfully divided into both strenuous and not-so-strenuous, plus some special exercises for specific trouble spots such as chest and tummy.

All are interspersed with helpful sections on diets and tips on catering, either for a family or a single person living on a small income, and are usefully timed and keyed in with the Breakfast Time clock so that you can dip in and select just the sections that appeal to you or those that you may want to repeat on a daily basis.

Total running time is sixty minutes and the cost is £19.99 from W. H. Smith branches; also for sale or rental from most video shops.

A.C.

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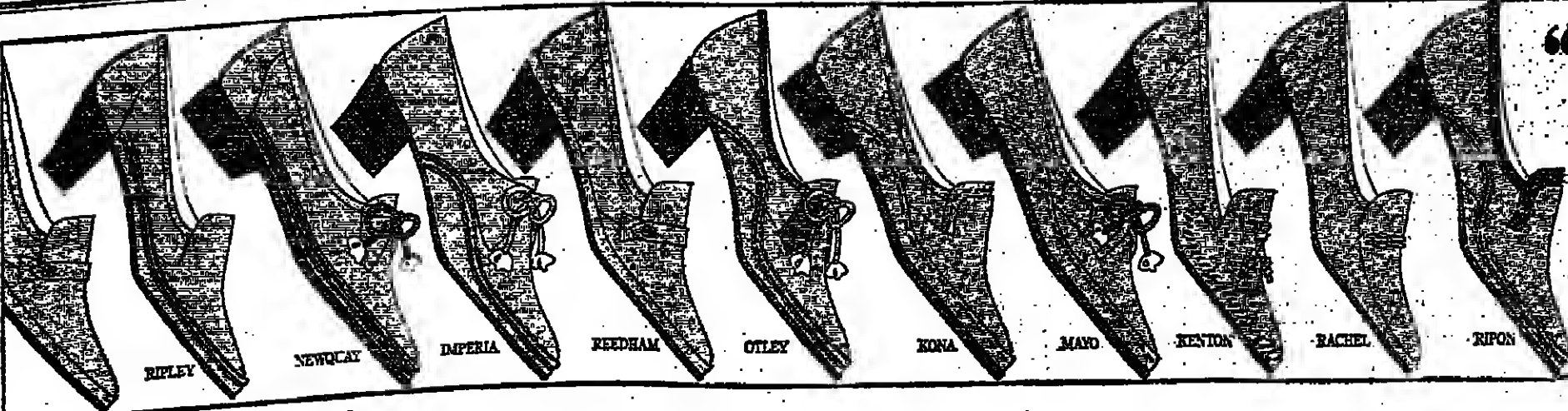
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The danger is that the Department of the Environment is liable to postpone reforms leading to a return to the proper functions of local government because of the pressure of other business. Mr PATRICK JENKIN should resist the temptation to drag his feet.



The above examples come from the moderate Left. But the centre is also fond of false equivalence because it enables it to blame extremism from one side on both. Thus the coupling "Beon and Thatcher" or "extremists of both Left and Right" are usually a sign that the speaker is an extremist of the centre.

No poetry surrounds Lord Salisbury. Yet it was with him in the 1880s and the 1890s that the modern Conservative party came of age. In Disraeli's time still pri-

IT HAS TAKEN 50 years for film makers to explore the potential of the "Bodyline" Tour. But the Australians at least will not have to wait so long for a dramatisation of

As a symbol of reconciliation and stability Baldwin became a legend even in his own lifetime. But the legend died before the

Called "Is There Anybody There?" was devised by John Carroll for the husband-and-wife partnership at the 1975 Edinburgh Festival. They

The author is Emeritus Professor of History, St. Salvador's College, St. Andrews University. His most recent book is "Lord Liverpool" (Weidenfeld, £16.95).

PETERBOROUGH

RONALD M. WATSON
Leader of the Council
Metropolitan Borough of Sefton
Southport Town Hall

DAVID AUSTEN
Chislehurst, Kent

11. as I assume is the case, Jersey is part of the United Kingdom surely its coinage should be legal tender on the mainland? If not, then surely it should not have the Queen's head upon it and be an exact facsimile, except for the design on its reverse side, of the mainland coin."

D. GOODWIN
Pett's Wood, Kent.

SIR—I have recently had the misfortune to have been given in change two 50 pence coins from Jersey. To my surprise as, quite innocently, I tried to use them, I was told these are not legal tender in England.

If, as I assume is the case, Jersey is part of the United Kingdom surely its coinage should be legal tender on the mainland? If not, then surely it should not have the Queen's head upon it and be an exact facsimile, except for the design on its reverse side, of the mainland coin?

D. GOODWIN
 Potts Wood, Kent.

'Plastic henge' plan to protect stone version

By BRIAN SILK

THE committee appointed to save Stonehenge from the wear and tear of tourists has come up with a simple solution.

It is that the visitors should be guided away from the late Neolithic Age circle of stones on Salisbury Plain, and shown another monument, looking identical to the original but erected in the Early Synthetic Age out of glass fibre.

RUSSIA CUTS SPORT LINKS IN VISIT ROW

By COLIN GIBSON
Sports Correspondent
RUSSIA has temporarily severed its sporting links with Britain following a decision by the Government to refuse visas to a team of North Korean gymnasts.

The three 16-year-old gymnasts, their coach, a pianist and an interpreter were due to arrive from Sofia this afternoon for Saturday's modern rhythmic gymnastics international at Wembley.

But they have been told by the British Consulate in Moscow that their application for entry visas has been denied. Fearing embarrassment at having one of its closest allies expelled from Britain, the Russians have also withdrawn from the competition in sympathy.

Bitter complaint

They made their announcement last Wednesday, the day the North Koreans learned of visa problems, and later in the afternoon announced that their diving team, along with those of Bulgaria, East Germany and Czechoslovakia, would be dropping out of an international match at Crystal Palace on Oct. 21.

The British Amateur Gymnastics Association has complained bitterly to the Home Office and the Foreign Office about the decision, which they fear may jeopardise a £250,000 sponsorship by Silentnight Beds for the event.

They also fear that the Eastern nation in the event—Bulgaria—may also have second thoughts about attending the Wembley international.

A Home Office spokesman said: "Britain has no diplomatic relations with North Korea. Each application is considered on its merits and this one has been refused."

The building of a Mark II Stonehenge is being taken seriously by the working party set up by the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission, a Quango with a budget of more than £50 million.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, the Commission's chairman, said yesterday that it would be useful to get some public reaction to the idea, but declined to disclose his own.

Anyone still considering it worthwhile travelling to the site in look at a glass fibre Stonehenge, may find that it is not even a full-sized copy. Lord Montagu pointed out that it may be decided to build a scaled-down version.

The notion of keeping people away from the real Stonehenge stems from what Lord Montagu described as the "deplorable condition" of the site as a result of the attention of some 800,000 people a year. Quite apart from vandalism to the stones themselves, the turf around the monument had been turned to mud by the feet of the invading tourists.

Dilemma for druids
The working party appears to have got its idea from Prof. Glyn Daniel, the eminent archaeologist, who suggested building a replica of Stonehenge three months ago.

Proposing that it be housed in a museum, he said: "The original would then be forever banned to the public, including midsummer druids."

However, the true credit for the Alternative Stonehenge must go to The Daily Telegraph and columnist Peter Simple.

Years ago, he proposed solving the problem of the tourists to the monument by spreading them more evenly around the country.

Mr Simple argued the case for building not one but dozens of replicas, one for each new town and housing estate. He also suggested that artefacts, such as pottery and arrow heads, should be buried under the new developments, so that they could be dug up again by sophisticated archaeology students.



Dulcet tones on the cornet of Rebecca Johnson, aged 9—awarded the Martin Winter trophy as the youngest player in the National Brass Band Championships in London yesterday. She is a member of the Horbury Victoria juniors band near Wakefield, West Yorks.

HEART STOPS FOR 4 HOURS

By D. E. C. HUTCHIN
Medical Consultant

A MAN of 27 whose heart stopped beating for four hours survived and recovered completely, according to a report in the latest issue of the *British Medical Journal*.

The patient, an unemployed man, was found in a state of hypothermia as a result of passing the night on a park bench after taking alcohol and barbiturates.

Although he required hospital treatment for about a month, including artificial ventilation (the so-called iron lung) for nearly three weeks, he was ultimately discharged without disability.

He did not apparently suffer brain damage, a major risk in prolonged cardiac arrest, which deprives the brain of oxygen until the circulation is restored.

It is pointed out by the authors of the report, Drs I. Osborne, A. S. Kamal El Din and J. E. Smith, that the combination of alcohol, hypothermia and barbiturates is known to prolong the survival of vital cells of the nervous system.

By GUY RAIS

AN inquiry into allegations that British officers were involved in the massacre of 27 Burmese civilians 42 years ago has been authorised by the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers.

It follows claims by a former British officer in the 2nd Bn King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, Mr Gerard Fitzpatrick, now 64, that he had ordered the killings.

They are said to have happened while the battalion was retreating 1,000 miles from Rangoon into India with the 14th Army.

Mr Fitzpatrick, then a 22-year-old second lieutenant, was quoted as saying in a Sunday newspaper four months ago that the massacre took place in 1942 on April 25, St George's Day, at a stockaded village 300 miles north of the Burmese capital.

He feared the villagers could betray their position to the pursuing Japanese.

Mr Fitzpatrick, who left the Army in 1948 and now lives in

Guiseley, near Leeds, would tell no more unless he was paid.

Dr Ralph Tanner, a former lecturer in comparative religion at the University of London, who was the battalion's intelligence officer at the time, said yesterday: "I was there on that day and I was given to understand that the men brought in were looters."

"I remember hearing shots but my memory was that more like 17 men were involved and not 27. They may have been spies—things like that were not uncommon in war-time."

Surprise for Dalyell
"In retrospect, if it did occur the officer was justified, but it is very difficult to appreciate the circumstances at the time. If the police do interview me, I will prepare a statement."

Mr Victor Steves, now 70, who lives in Hertfordshire, also a second lieutenant with the battalion, said he expected to be seen by detectives, although "one can forget an awful lot in 42 years."

Col Colin Huxley, Colonel of the K.O.Y.L.I. which became part of the Light Infantry in 1968, confirmed there was no record of the incident in the regiment's records.

Confirmation that a police investigation would be carried out was given by Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour M.P. for Livingston, by the Attorney-General.

Mr Dalyell said yesterday that he had written to Mr Heseltine, Defence Secretary, after reading Mr Fitzpatrick's admission. "I told Mr Heseltine that I had no wish to cause difficulties for the Ministry of Defence, but that for the honour of the 14th Army the matter should be cleared up one way or the other."

To my surprise Mr Heseltine, in a letter to me, which I only opened after my return from the week's Labour party conference, said he had passed on my letter to the Attorney-General and that the Director of Public Prosecutions was asking Scotland Yard to begin an inquiry.

Mulroney praises Queen's role in Canada

By ALAN COPPS in Winnipeg

THE Queen left Canada yesterday, reassured by Mr Brian Mulroney, the new Prime Minister, of the Monarch's importance in his country's life, and looking forward to a private holiday in the United States.

Her exhausting two-week tour ended on an entertaining note in Manitoba.

But in some earlier stages it had lacked the glamour and enthusiasm associated with a Royal visit.

In Winnipeg the Queen was treated to a gala performance by the Royal Manitoba Festival to mark the 250th anniversary of the expedition by the French pioneer, Pierre La Verendrye, who first charted the lakes and rivers of the Province.

Mr Mulroney's remarks were made at a farewell dinner for 1,600 guests held in the rather spartan surroundings of Winnipeg's Convention Centre.

"You have carried out your difficult and onerous duties with a warmth and charm that have endeared you to Canadians everywhere."

"The monarchy is a central feature of our national life and of our parliamentary democracy," he said to loud applause. The Queen, in her reply, pledged herself to continue serving as Queen of Canada.

Warm welcome

"The Crown was able to act as a unifying and distinctive symbol of nationhood" during the formation of Canada.

"The crowds of people of all ethnic origins and denominations who gave me such a warm welcome... demonstrated that this symbol still has a real value."

On the United States the Queen is to visit a stud farm near Lexington, Kentucky, where she will stay with Mr William Parish, one of America's leading horse breeders.

On Friday the Queen is to travel on to Sheridan, Wyoming to spend the weekend with Lady Porchester, American-born wife of her racing manager, before returning to London.

BIG BOND WINNERS

Winning numbers in the weekly Premium Bond draw were: £100,000: 15KN 649195 (Hampshire); £50,000: 21VB 841240 (Plymouth); £25,000: 34AP 566098 (Lanarkshire).

FOLLOWING ROSSITER

'HARD TASK'

By ROBIN STRINGER
TV and Radio Correspondent

DINSDALE LANDEN is to take over the part of Inspector Truscott in Joe Orton's black comedy, "Lolita," at the Lyric, which was being played by the late Leonard Rossiter.

Mr Rossiter, 57, collapsed from a heart attack in his dressing room on Friday night and died later in the Middlesex Hospital.

Mr Landen, who is to begin rehearsals today and will take over from the understudy, John Channell, Mills, on Thursday week, is a founder-member of the Theatre of Comedy, which is staging the play.

Ray Cooney, artistic director of the Theatre of Comedy, said yesterday:

"It is an unenviable task for anyone to follow Leonard because he had such a personal success in the part."

Loved by millions

In a tribute to Mr Rossiter, Mr Cooney described him as "a unique comedy actor."

He may well be best remembered for relentlessly pouring Cinzano over Joan Collins in television commercials.

But his more demanding television roles as the seedy landlord Rigsby in "Rising Damp" and as Reggie Perrin in "The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin" endeared him to millions.

Born in Liverpool, he won a scholarship to Liverpool University but, having to support his mother, worked instead in an insurance office.

Rossiter began acting in amateur shows and progressed to weekly repertory. But it was not until his award-winning portrayal on stage in 1969 of the title role in Brecht's "The Resistant Rise of Arturo Ui" that his career took off.



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INVESTMENT & BUSINESS

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Daily Telegraph
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Chicago
tidied up
the shop

FIRST CHICAGO Corporation's decision to boost its reserves against future loan losses and write off \$273 million in non-performing loans surprised Wall Street last week and gave rise to short-lived fears all over the world that the American banking system was about to suffer the collapse of yet another major financial institution.

As it turned out, First Chicago, the holding company for America's tenth largest bank, First National Bank of Chicago, was instead simply doing some painful house cleaning, under the watchful and increasingly stern eye of the Comptroller of the Currency, America's big bank regulator.

London's interbank market felt the sweep of First Chicago's brown as early as last Monday, when the bank, never a big presence in London City markets, raised \$20 million.

"We normally have such a low profile in the Euro markets—we take our funds mainly from corporations—that we are a very rare factor in the interbank market," said First Chicago chief financial officer and executive vice-president William T. McDonough, in an interview with THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

"On Monday, when we raised about \$200 million, we were just doing some adjusting to our interest risk position. But since we are now ever vigilant in that market at all, what would have been a normal day's activity for most banks seemed unusual for us."

The 50-year-old executive denied that the unusual borrowing was a necessary move taken to shore up defences against Wednesday's earnings disclosure. Further, he said, the bank has had no problems raising funds in the wake of the surprise announcement.

The "house cleaning" will result in a third quarter loss of around \$70 million, the first quarterly loss ever for the Chicago bank. It compares with last year's third quarter profits of \$40 million.

The enormous provisions were a one-time operation that will not be repeated in future quarters, said Mr McDonough, who was hired by First Chicago in 1982 as vice-president of the international operations.

Mr McDonough does not believe that First Chicago's loan problems were any different from those plaguing America's other major money centres.

"There are still some sectors in the economy, like energy in the United States, and construction in the Middle East, and the developing nations in general, that have not picked up to the degree that one would normally associate with the third year of a recovery," Mr McDonough said.

"Consequently credit problems lingering from the accelerated inflation of the late seventies, and the severe recession of the early 1980s have not been worked out in the course of this business cycle.

It is that recognition which led First Chicago to take such draconian actions regarding our own loan portfolio.

At the heart of First Chicago's decision, Mr McDonough implied, is the knowledge that America's current recovery can't last forever. By the end of 1986 or 1987, at the latest, First Chicago estimates, the country will be in another recession.

Unless the bank acts now to build a solid financial base, the next downturn in the economy could be even harder to weather. And that is true for all of America's banks, not just First Chicago. Last week California-based Security Pacific took a similar action and boosted its loan loss reserves 42 p.c.

Why have America's banks suddenly turned prudent? Mr McDonough admits that the McDonald Illinois crisis had a lot to do with it. For one, the Comptroller of the Currency has stepped up the pressure on America's banks to increase provisions and to go over loan portfolios more carefully.

James Srodes

Cautious City
welcome for
watchdog plan

By BARBARA CONWAY

THE basic structure of the new regulation system for the City, including details of a special watchdog body with statutory powers, will be made public by Mr Tehbit, Trade and Industry Secretary, following this week's Conservative party conference.

The plans for the new system are already receiving a cautious welcome from the City since, despite being considerably further in official control over the financial markets than most institutions had wanted, the plans still stop well short of an American-style Securities Exchange Commission.

Most important from the point of view of bodies such as the Stock Exchange is that the Government has accepted the view that any committee set up to oversee the City must contain a significant number of market practitioners among its members.

There are likely to be two representatives from most major City areas, such as the Stock Exchange, banks and insurance, industry, with several "lay" members to represent the public.

Although the watchdog will be set up under the new Investor Protection Act, which will be published as a White Paper in November, it is not likely to have any direct D.T.I. responsibilities as members. Instead it will be responsible for administering a tough new code of conduct under the Act and reporting back to the Government on progress or problems.

The Bank of England, which played a key role in the drafting of the watchdog body, as yet still unnamed, will also act as the major channel for communication between the watchdog and the Government.

Officials were denying yesterday that this watchdog indicates any real split between Mr Tehbit and Alex Fletcher, the minister dealing directly with City affairs.

Mr Fletcher had earlier made it clear that he inclined towards the first choice of virtually all the City institutions, a small group of approved self-regulatory associations each responsible for its own sector of investment activity, backed up by the D.T.I. But recent speeches by Mr Fletcher have displayed a change in emphasis towards the new format.

Although details are still being finalised it now looks likely that the Stock Exchange will be able to keep its status as a self-regulatory authority in its own right. One of the biggest jobs of the new umbrella committee will be to keep a strict curb on possible conflicts of interest arising from the stream of mergers forming giant banking-financial houses ahead of the planned changes in stock market trading.

The Act, based on the work done by Professor Jim Gower, is also expected to contain stringent provisions for the building of "Chinese Walls" to prevent an exchange of information which could be to the detriment of a client in one of the new financial conglomerates.

The structure of the committee is thought to be the best way of establishing authority over a conglomerate where one problem may easily stretch over several different areas of City activity. As well as representatives from various parts of the industry, the committee will have a strong, salaried, executive.

House prices ahead
7.6pc in 12 months

By DAVID GREEN

HOUSE prices in Britain rose by 7.6 p.c. in the 12 months to the end of September, according to the Halifax Building Society, showing a slight but unexpected upturn in September of 1 p.c. over the previous month.

Despite this the society still sticks to its forecast of a price increase of around 8 p.c. for the whole of 1984.

Early indications are that house prices in 1985 will rise slightly faster but the increase is not likely to be more than 10 p.c.

General Manager Alan Greenhalgh says: "We are beginning to see the first signs of the usual seasonal downturn in mortgage demand at this time of the year.

Given our early predictions of a slightly higher level of price increase in 1985 some buyers may be tempted into the market now, especially given the good supply of funds resulting from the present high levels of competition."

Prices in Greater London and the South-East continue to move ahead more rapidly than in other parts of the country—nearly three times faster than in the North and North-West.

The 12-month increase is 11.2 p.c. in Greater London, and 9.4 p.c. in the South-East. The next highest is East Anglia with 8.6 p.c., while the lowest increase, 3.1 p.c., is recorded in the North.

To illustrate the widening gap between house prices in different regions the Halifax figures show the average price for a four-bedroom detached house in Yorkshire at £224,945 while in Greater London the average price for a similar property is £31,766.

European growth 'to rise'

THE recovery in the European economy is expected to continue with slightly higher growth in 1985, according to European business federations.

Douglas McWilliams, deputy director of economic policy at the Confederation of British Industry and chairman of the N.I.C.E. Groupe Conjoncture, the economic forecasting wing of the European employers' organisation, said yesterday: "The group forecasts an average growth in output for the 16 countries covered in 1985 of 3.5 p.c. compared with 2.5 p.c. in 1984."

A meeting of the working party in Brussels said that although consumer spending in Europe remained sluggish strong growth in exports and investment were sustaining the recovery this year.

Inflation was falling in high industrial countries such as France and Italy and remaining stable in low inflation countries.

"The fashionable pessimism about the European economy is exaggerated," said Mr McWilliams. "Although there are weak spots most European governments are starting to get to grips with their economic problems."

MINING

Gauntlet run for Charter

By Colin Campbell

IF THERE is a banana skin around then Charter Consolidated is sure to slip on it.

Ten days ago Charter was the passive holder of 27.9 p.c. of Johnson Matthey whose reputation stood high. After all, Johnson Matthey has been going for over 100 years and its interests included banking, bullion, chemical and precious metal interests and the group was a member of the exclusive London billion ring.

Ten days on and following a midnight rescue by the Bank of England of J.M.'s banking arm, Charter is the heir apparent to 46 p.c. of Johnson Matthey and its own chief executive Neil Clarke is chairman of a board where there has already been a number of resignations.

Was Charter pushed or did it jump?

Outside of a couple of flimsy Press releases shareholders in Johnson Matthey and Charter Consolidated have been left to find out what they can. Meanwhile J.M. shareholders have seen their shares slump from 237p to a nominal 80p in resumed dealings last Tuesday and close on Friday at 102p, and Charter's price from 240p to 225p in initial dealings to settle at 220p at the end of last week.

On the basic assumption that the rumour of Johnson Matthey's business has a tangible value of £265 million and is still able to generate profits (the contribution in the year ended March 31 was £27.1 million), then from Charter's point of view the opportunity to acquire additional shares in J.M. at 50p against a market price of 102p is a mark in Charter's favour.

Whether Charter will get away with it is another matter. Late in the day, but nonetheless, loud voices City institutions and other shareholders now want the same opportunity to back the "new" J.M. group at 50p a share.

To be fair, it was Charter which at midnight last weekend was there with its £25 million promise. But for that agreement, bullion and financial markets could have opened in turmoil on Monday morning, and the viability of the entire Johnson Matthey group would have been jeopardised.

Charter always liked the idea of Johnson Matthey's interests, principally the precious metals, but the real cost of arriving at the control position has yet to be measured.

A rights issue for J.M. is still what the market is talking about, and this could give Charter the chance to quieten City voices.

If Charter does not follow its rights, and others have the opportunity to take up additional J.M. shares at 50p, Charter's grip on a prize it always sought will slip.

Charter says, however, that no full bid will be necessary and that was "not an obligation imposed by doing the weekend crisis meetings."

On the net, asset front J.M.'s fall from grace has done immediate damage to Charter's own net worth. Dividends and earnings reported by J.M. and attributable to Charter also fall.

For many an investor, Charter's own holding of J.M. was one of the main attractions in buying Charter shares. Takeover hopes to be followed by break up action were largely believed to be behind Hanson Trust's interest in Charter.

There has been little in Charter's own earnings and dividend record to excite ordinary investors otherwise.

So what are Charter's attractions, now? Anglo's Minorco arm (owner of 33.7 p.c.) is a willing bidder, but who is likely to be a willing buyer now that the J.M.'s interest has been watered down?

A transfer of the platinum interests to Minorco is a non-starter because of the latter's association with Engelhard Corporation: the bullion arm is under the control of the Bank of England, and buyers of that bullion presumably have to be British.

Charter's Anderson Strathclyde is caught up in the miners dispute, and, at best, Charter is expected merely to hold dividend payments.

If you want to stay invested in the sector look at Rio Tinto Zinc and Consolidated Gold Fields—and in that order.

LOMBARD STREET

TAKING THE ENEMY'S ADVICE

By Christopher Fildes

THE BUILDING societies have been asking Philip Gire to tell them their future. It is as though the Allied command, on the eve of Armistice, had invited a guest contribution from Field Marshal von Roodstede. The result was salutary: "Gentlemen, don't you think you are going a branch too far?"

The societies recognise in Mr Gire their most powerful single competitor. He runs the retail banking side of the National Westminster, our biggest domestic bank, with the biggest branch network and now the most cash dispensers. But in general the societies would back themselves to take on the banks and win.

For 20 years they have been steadily winning the war for deposits. The banks fight back, try new tactics, sometimes recapture ground, seldom hold it. Over time they have either stood still or had to retreat. Next Budget will take away one of their weapons which the societies cannot match—the right to pay interest without deducting tax.

The banks' boldest counter-attack was to invade the building society home territory, the mortgage market. That was too successful for the banks' good. Their leading echelons of salesmen got ahead of their supply lines and were cut off.

Advertisements proclaiming "We have plenty of money to lend" had to be dropped, branch managers found themselves being told to discourage would-be borrowers on mortgage and, although all the Big Four are in the business to stay, they have acquired the label of the home-buyer's fair weather friends.

Now the societies, in their turn, are moving into the banks' terrain of money transmission—cheques, books, cards, cash dispensers. When their new Act of Parliament goes through they will be able to make personal loans. They may even find themselves dealing in shares. Is there no stopping them?

The societies of the Midlands posed Mr Gire that question, and he told them that on all three fronts, but most of all on money transmission, they can now expect a bloody nose.

It was, no doubt, his duty to say so. But the disposition of his forces says so too.

In the fight for deposits, the code-word of the banks' high command is "segmenting". Rather than bidding up for money all along the line, the banks try to pick out vulnerable sectors where they mount a combined operation, planning and putting together a grouping of services.

All the banks are now busily segmenting. Andrew Buxton, of Barclays, said last week that introducing new products was the only way the banks could stop the decline in retail customers' money as a proportion of their total funds. Philip Gire himself is the proud foster-father of the Natwest's pottery pigs.

Midland Bank's John Greenwood is bringing on new segments at speed—monthly interest on deposit accounts for those who need their income to flow constantly, a High Interest Cheque Account which has drawn £760 million, a package for children with the stress on education, the Saver-Plus scheme,



Philip Gire: "A branch too far?"

something new coming this week.

But the banks' best hope must be that the societies will defeat each other, or defeat themselves. It was the pusher societies, below the biggest, which began the business of buying marginal money at irresistible prices. It is the biggest societies who have now been made do to retailing in kind.

The result has been that, over the past three years, the share of the societies' money, which they pay these premium rates has more than doubled. In three years, too, the banks spent £7 million on advertising for savings, while the societies spent £92 million. At these prices the societies' success may be too dearly bought.

Mortgage front

On the mortgage front the banks may be doing better than they have let their customers realise. Last year National Westminster was the fourth mortgage provider in the country measured in terms of new money lent. It has never put the shutters up on its home loan counter, though at one stage it required borrowers to have had accounts with the bank for six months.

It does not surcharge the big borrower—when, in justice, ought to get a discount for the quantity of his borrowing, but who finds himself tapped by the building societies as a convenient source for all that liquid gold. The societies may now have to find their gold somewhere else or lose their market share.

The banks, naturally, will feel most confident when fighting on their home ground. Money transmission costs money, as the banks know to their cost, since on their personal accounts it has been bleeding them for years. The societies are welcome to share that experience.

If, though, they would prefer—as many sensibly do—to be customers of the banks' transmission services, they are now on notice that the banks will take that into

account when they next negotiate their tariff. Here is another cost rising alongside the cost of getting deposits, and somebody will have to pay it. The customer, in charges?

What the customer will certainly do, give the chance to treat a savings account as a cheque account, is to move his money about. That threatens to destabilise the societies' deposit base and to increase the turnover of money—with costs, once more, rising with it.

These, then, are the armoured divisions which Philip Gire has brought up to the battlefields. He has some menacé reserves, too. When the societies move into personal loans, will there be a price war—competitive cutting of rates and fees? He expects so and a war of financial attrition is one which the banks are likely to win.

The societies realise that, too. What worries them most about their strategy now is to know where to turn the capital they must have. That registrar will insist that, as they move into business less safe and less simple than mortgage lending, they must back that business with a strengthened capital base in cash or securities which are close to cash. They must make other investments, in technology, in equipment and in training. How does a mutual society set about raising new capital?

The new Act will let the societies turn themselves into limited companies, and the pressure for capital will surely drive some to it. Indeed, once they were companies, they might well get their capital from a friendly bidder. Why should Standard Chartered wait around for a British retail bank to come on the market if it could buy a ready-made hunch network and deposit base?

The American banks, headed by Citicorp, have been trying to reach the high streets for years and have suffered costly reverses, like the first money shops. Is this their chance at last?

Oh, what a lovely war, with only one certain winner—the saver. About time, too.

USM entrants
'underpriced'

THE performance of the unlisted securities market in prices and returns is taken to task in the latest issue of Lloyds Bank Review.

"The emerging evidence," says an article, "suggests that new entrants have been very substantially underpriced."

"Discounts averaging around 30 p.c. of market value, even of relatively small proportions of their equity, will still be a disincentive to shareholders, albeit a boon for speculative purchasers."

But, say authors Roger Buckland and Edward Davis, leading figures in business finance and Lloyds Bank professor in business finance respectively, "despite this reservation the market has clearly brought important opportunities both to companies and investors."

It has also benefited from the persistent and strong bull market in equities but, the authors add, it is not possible yet to assess whether it is a market robust enough to withstand a reversal of this bull trend.

PROPERTY
PROSPECTS

WITH a rapidly diminishing supply of modern offices in the central core of the City of London and relocation outside central London being spurred by major office users, what will the next crop of office developments appear on the City skyline?

In tomorrow's Commercial Property column, Bruce Kinlock will look at London's next major office development area.

COMPUTERS

Microscope on micro stocks

By Michael Beckett

AS COMPUTER companies continue to seek stock market quotations investors are taking a closer look at this high technology sector. With greater scrutiny the euphoria has begun to subside and the stock market is to allocate widely differing ratings for companies to similar lines of business.

It will be some time before judgements can be validated because the enterprises are still so new, but over the past year share prices have taken divergent paths. For instance, Acorn Computers, best known as maker of the highly successful BBC machine, has fallen sharply out of favour since the summer.

After a climb to 195p in May the shares have been on a steady slide and on Friday closed at 87p, with the decline setting in before the company revealed its United States operations would cost more and produce later profits than expected. The reaction seemed a bit hard because in its last year Acorn still managed a turnover increase of 120 p.c. to £93 million and profits rose 26 p.c. to £11 million.

And Acorn has just announced a new range of small

business machines, with an updated version of the BBC computer expected next year. By contrast Applied Computer Techniques has seen its share price recover after a milder mid-summer dip and last Friday closed at 245p.

This may reflect the company's success in outselling IBM in microcomputers, first with the American-made Sirius and with the addition of its own Apricot from Glenrothes.

The Apricot was not showing to full effect in its last year's figures which still showed turnover 23 p.c. up at £51 million and pre-tax profits 131 p.c. up at £4.6 million.

May was the time of reappraisal and that was when C.P.U. Computers shares also lost popularity, its downward trend reached 146p on Friday against 204p at the end of April. The company, originally a distributor, has launched the Octopus micro and stock exchange variances about its prospects held back the shares despite half time profits being 54 p.c. up at £206,000, turnover 55 p.c. higher at £21 million, full time results are due today.

Software companies have been subject to similar diver-

gence. Systems Designers, which also has a substantial consultancy arm, has shown a continuous share recovery over the past three months. This is partly the result of diversification from defence-related business to package programmes and international systems consultancy.

But Brikat, which produces the best-selling accounting package Peasius and came to the unlisted securities market in May, has been less enthusiastically viewed. After the summer dip its shares on Friday closed at 133p compared with 140p issue price and just seems to be drifting.

At 15 years old, Logica is a veteran in this field with both packaged and purpose-written software, plus consultancy and its share performance fits in between Systems Designers and Brikat. In its first year as a public company, Logica reported a 63 p.c. rise in turnover to £73 million to end-June this year, with profits 56 p.c. higher at £5.2 million.

The pattern is repeated in about every sector of the business.

Northamber has shown a volatile price pattern since its placing in June at 115p, but the

trend has been upwards and its shares closed at 171p on Friday. It is a wholesaler of computer printers.

Zegal Dynamics also supplies printers and distributors, computer terminals, yet despite a 60 p.c. rise to turnover to £5 million and 112 p.c. rise in profit to £247,000 in its last year, its shares have sagged. Since the 139p high at the end of February the shares have zig-zagged down and closed at 77p on Friday compared with the 88p placing price in June 1981.

Other dealers and distributors have also suffered mixed fates. Atlantic Computers has a stable share price. Micro Business is falling. Miles 33 dropped but has now steadied at that level. Quest Automation rose but has evened off. Compac fluctuates but ends upwards. C.P.S. is down but steady.

Clearly none of the companies, whether manufacturing terminals or leasing computers are quite identical in coverage with other quoted organisations. It is partly the difference in business coverage which encourages or worries City analysts, coupled with views on the chances of staying alive in a viciously competitive environment.

Shareholders due for a tonic from Glaxo

THE stress and strain of today's lifestyle may not be good news for those unfortunate people unlucky enough to have contracted an ulcer. But if they also happen to be shareholders in Glaxo at least the pain may be eased with the news that sales of their group's highly successful Zantac anti-ulcer drug are likely to have reached £200 million worldwide this year.

Zantac has been Glaxo's success story over the past two years.

The successful launch of the drug in America in July 1983—it has since captured around

28 p.c. of the market—also helped earnings to expand in the opening half of 1983-84. Market analysts are predicting that the full year pre-tax profit—due today—will show an increase to around £260 million. Shareholders, meanwhile, should be further comforted by another rise in the total dividend to around 11.5p (9p). Some observers are also looking for a one-for-one scrip issue which would bring the share price—currently at around 99p—down to a more marketable level.

Harris Queensway, the fast

expanding carpet and furniture retailer, which recently announced a joint venture with Debenhams, reports its interim results tomorrow. The group had an excellent 1983 with pre-tax profits of £10.5 million to £25.6 million. This favourable trend is expected to have continued with the board reporting in April that sales in the first quarter were up by 30 p.c. First half pre-tax profits are anticipated to be in the region of £13 million (£9.2 million) and market analysts are looking for around £25 million for the full year.

Good start to
Dowding year

ELECTRICAL and mechanical repair engineers Dowding and Mill, which gets its business from serving the needs of British manufacturing industry, reports a "reasonably good start" to the current year.

Peter Hollings, the chairman, says in the annual report that, provided there is no major downturn in industrial activity, the half-year results will be at least equal to the same period last year.

MITCHELL COTTS

International Engineering, Transportation and Trading

1983/84 RESULTS (unaudited)

* Improved earnings and increased dividend

	Years ended 30th June 1984 £000s	1983 £000s
Turnover	376,876	405,319
Profit before Tax	10,889	7,377
Profit after Tax	6,152	3,269
Earnings per Share	8.06p	4.49p
Dividend per Share	4.00p	3.62p

At £10,889,000 pre-tax profits are increased by 48%. A substantial element of this improvement is attributable to profits earned in the U.K. which, as anticipated, have not attracted any significant additional taxation. Earnings per share have increased from 4.49p to 8.06p per share. U.K. profits are a product of maintained performance on the transportation side, coupled with substantial improvements in engineering with particular emphasis

on chemicals: Overseas, South Africa and Australia remain depressed. In East Africa profits from the tea estates have advanced considerably. Despite continuing economic problems in South Africa and Australia, the improved dividend should be taken as a sign of confidence in the sound strategies which have been established in recent years.

P. P. Dunkley
Chairman

Mitchell Cotts plc, Cotts House, Camomile Street, London EC3A 7BJ. Tel: 01-283 1234. Telex: London 8814641.

Buying Chubb for a Racial gamble

Reagan cast as the conference hero

AS THE heated takeover battle between Racal Electronics and Chubb and Son enters its closing stages an interesting opportunity for arbitrage is presented.

In its latest and final offer which values Chubb at around £178 million, Racal has increased the offer to 26p per share. This is around 6p below the current share price and provides an exit earnings multiple of around 19 based on Chubb's 1984-85 forecast of £18 million before tax.

There is a good deal of conjecture about the true worth of that Racal loan stock. Racal itself has said that if it had been issued when the announcement was made last Wednesday it would have commanded a price of 115-13p per share. Chubb has described that estimate as "dubious".

However, there is a strong feeling in the market that Racal may have taken a conservative view of its own Ordinary shares. It is currently yielding 6.5p while the loan stock, which carries a 7 p.c. coupon would still yield 6.5p on a price per £1 unit of 116-5p.

To underwrite this, a holder of £100 of convertible stock would in year one receive dividends equal to 18-2p per share. A holder of the equivalent in Ordinary shares (58-461 shares on the conversion terms) would receive 4-1p. Assuming 10 p.c. annual growth in dividends it would take until the year 2000

before the Ordinary return would overtake the convertible. The loan stock is convertible from April, 1988, until April, 2008.

Arbitrage investments by their very nature are speculative and the requirement of certain assumptions in the case of the Racal/Chubb saga is that Racal is going to win the battle.

There are several strong reasons for thinking this not already played its strongest hand. Last week the company forecast a 25 p.c. increase in pre-tax profits to £18 million for the year to March 1985.

Considering that Chubb is fighting its own battle against industrial problems that forecast must have drained all the available juice out of the company.

Racal first started buying Chubb shares in June and then moved to 14-15p and immediately before the first bid in August it was paying 19-1p a share. Chubb's profits record has been impressive. In 1979 it made £15-5 million before tax and after dropping to £6-8 million two years later it was making no more than £1-4 million in 1983-84.

The other necessary assumption is that Racal's shares will not collapse if the bid is successful. There seems no real reason why they should. Racal has not yet made a specific forecast of current year profits and it is unlikely to do so given that its final after document has already been published. But its trading outlook is not bad and suggests that the 1984-85 pre-tax profit could rise to £142 million, against £119 million. After the dramatic performance of the last couple of years that looks positively good.

Even if Chubb were to chip in no more than £15 million pre-tax in the following year Racal should push its pre-tax profits to 1985-86 up to £180 million. There should be negligible dilution of earnings on this basis and the prospective multiple of 15 times for 1984-85 drops to 12-5 for the following year.

Having accepted these basic assumptions a few simple sums reveal the arbitrage attractions of the Chubb shares. If investors were to buy the Chubb shares at around 26p then accept the Racal offer they would be effectively purchasing the 7 p.c. convertible loan stock at 105-5p per unit and that is considerably cheaper than even Chubb would price it.

Or to put it another way—

QUESTOR Tom Kyte

if Chubb shareholders accept the terms and the £5 of the convertible, which they trades now at around 130p a share, they would effectively be purchasing Racal shares at 22-1p each.

The bid closes on October 18 so existing Chubb shareholders have no reason to rush their decision. If a white knight does appear brandishing a higher offer they will have lost nothing by hanging on until the last minute. But those investors taking only a speculative view at present could find it lucrative to gamble on Racal's success by buying Chubb shares.

Two-year view of Bridgend

TEN THOUSAND pounds might not sound much in the context of public companies' pre-tax profits but for Bridgend Process it was of enormous significance for the six months to June. It represented the first profit the company had seen in more than a dozen years.

In 1982 Bridgend made a pre-tax loss of £250,000 then in August 1983 stockbroker Neil List moved on the company and set about arranging a subscription which with the aid of interest free loans from the group's bankers prevented it from sliding into oblivion.

Having saved the company cut its losses to £78,000 by the end of 1983 before moving back into profit in the current year.

It was Mr List who a couple of years ago developed the shell of Hawthorn Leslie into a successful electrical distribution business which was eventually taken over by Starwest. He is now concentrating on turning Bridgend into a wider ranging distribution specialist.

Traditionally the company has been engaged in the distribution of security equipment and this remains an important operation to it despite recent rationalisation. But about six weeks ago the company tied on another arm with the £7-8 million purchase of W. Woodward and Sons, engaged in the distribution of replacement parts for buses and trucks.

Last year Woodward made £150,000 from £15 million of turnover. Bridgend foresees plenty of opportunity for margin improvement. Woodward also brought in around £3-5 million of assets within which there was a heavy stock element which Bridgend is confident it can reduce thus releasing around £1 million of capital over the next two years.

Current year figures will take in any stock write-offs or rationalisation costs but the pre-tax loss should still show profits ranging around £150,000. Following year's profits should be clear of all extraordinary charges and the group is looking for at least £250,000.

It will have no tax to pay in the foreseeable future and once the excess Woodward stocks are liquidated the group is aiming to hit the acquisition trail again.

Any company with Bridgend's chequered history must be regarded as a speculative investment but with the shares at just 26p the downside is limited and they could be worth following on a two-year view.

President Reagan is an unlikely Labour hero. Yet at Blackpool last week his name has been hailed with praise.

Mr Reagan, it is said, has proved that Keynesian nostrums work. Fiscal expansion does stimulate growth and jobs.

The performance of the American economy under the influence of a burgeoning budget deficit has indeed been impressive. Growth this year is likely to approach 7 p.c., nearly double last year's 3-5 p.c. Since the beginning of 1983 a 4-5 million have found work. Yet inflation remains a reassuringly low 4 p.c.

Labour's conclusion: fiscal expansion is the right course for Britain.

Yet it would not be at all surprising if President Reagan's name was invoked in Brighton this week to justify very different policies. America's economic success, Mr Lawson, the Chancellor, argues, is very little to do with budget deficits and a great deal to do with the enterprise culture and flexible labour market.

As he pointed out in the Maitland lecture earlier this year "the United States economy has not only recovered from the relatively recent increase in her budget deficit."

The sharp contrast between American and European experience has been seen most clearly in the more efficient, competitive, innovative and adaptive labour and goods markets in the United States.

The Government's conclusion: supply side policies to remove rigidities and reward effort are what Britain needs.

On both sides, truth and wishful thinking go hand in hand when it comes to applying United States lessons to Britain.

Few people (and certainly not Mr Lawson or his advisers) deny that fiscal expansion can boost output and jobs in the short term. The question is whether the long-run effect is benign or damaging.

Outside the White House there is virtual unanimity that the American boom is heading for bust. The huge budget deficit is pumping ever more demand into an economy stretched to the limit (a situation incidentally which Keynes would certainly have frowned on).

Inflationary pressures have been staved off by an extraordinary strong dollar, boosted by high domestic interest rates, as government and private industry compete for funds.

But the American economy is now reliant on foreign funds to finance the budget deficit and the gaping current account deficit which is roiling growth and an uncompetitive dollar has produced. Sooner or later, foreign investors will demand foreign recompense to keep their money in dollars.

Either the dollar will rise steeply, bludgeoning the economy.

THE HURDEN OF OUR FORECAST is rather different. Greater supply based on lower real prices leads to falling relative prices of British goods relative to those of our competitors and to the money supply, so demand is created to absorb it. In the process it also contributes to falling inflation. Since falling inflation, relative to money supply growth, is one of the mechanisms by which growth occurs.

Five years ago such an account of the economy was generally considered fringe lunacy by "mainstream" economists, and so necessarily by many intelligent laymen. Now in 1984 we have seen the power of monetary policy to reduce inflation dramatically while permitting a good cyclical recovery in output as inflation expectations die down.

The demonstration of that power was the result of Mrs Thatcher's faith in old classical monetary remedies for inflation in the face of fashionable Keynesian brood of previous political failures. Supply-side remedies come from the same classical stable and work through the same model of the economy.

Mrs Thatcher should now put the same energy and commitment behind these remedies. She will then achieve a similar demonstration of effectiveness on the employment side.

Details of the Liverpool forecast are given in the Quarterly Economic Bulletin, available on subscription from Liverpool Macroeconomic Research, Limited, PO Box 147, Liverpool, L69 3BX.

Patrick Minford is Professor of Applied Economics at the University of Liverpool.

ECONOMIC COMMENTARY



By Frances Williams

omy into recession, or the dollar will plunge, importing inflation and forcing the authorities to step on the brakes.

The United States has only been able to come this far because of certain special advantages, none of which applies to Britain. The rest of the world has been willing to fund the twin deficits on a huge scale, generous tax breaks for credit have immunised the American economy to high interest rates (though not completely), as a sluggish housing market and a troubled banking system demonstrate; and extra output has fed straight through into more jobs because cheap labour makes it worthwhile for industry to take on workers without rekindling inflation.

In Britain three years of recovery have produced only a quarter of a million jobs, a sequences of their failure.

tenth of the number lost in the downturn, and unemployment is still rising relentlessly. Yet the earnings of those in employment have persistently outstripped inflation and labour costs are increasing much faster than ahead. Extra demand is likely to do more for imports than for jobs.

All this adds force to the Government's claim that supply side policies are essential to produce jobs in the long-term. But ministers too are guilty of wishful thinking.

The chances of Britain becoming a mini-United States are pretty remote. In America only a sixth of all workers belong to trade unions (compared with nearly half in Britain); people think nothing of uprooting to find work, employers can hire and fire at will, and a vestigial welfare system provides strong incentives to take almost any job, however poorly paid that may be.

This is not a vision of British society congenial even to the most avid supply-side minister, and it is certainly not one they would regard as politically acceptable either to the electorate or their own backbenchers.

Such supply side changes as are possible—trade union legislation, some relaxation of employment protection, minimum wage laws, changes in social security rules, strengthening competition policy and the like will take years, have any perceptible effect on employment?

The problem remains as it has always been: how to achieve durable growth which generates high employment without rekindling inflation.

The American boom, not four years old, has not found a way to escape the uncomfortable consequences of their failure.

BOUSTEAD

INTERIM RESULTS 1984

The following is extracted from the Chairman's statement in respect of the half year ended 30th June, 1984:

The unaudited Group profit before tax of £20,000 is well below expectation, due to a slower than anticipated rate of recovery in some of our Far Eastern operations and a loss sustained by OLFAS, a soft copy business, which was sold to the Singaporean Boustead Group in April, 1984, reflecting an improvement in performance by both Australia and Pte. Limited, also contributed another outstanding result.

The sale by Boustead Singapore Limited of 50% of their investment in Boustead Australia Limited to Fremont Brest was completed in August, 1984.

Accounting discrepancies discovered at King Trainers Limited and reported at the Annual General Meeting, have since been found by the Group's auditors, Ernst & Whinney, to be larger than were previously indicated. Management accounts at 30th June, 1984, show a diminution of assets relative to that reported at 31st December, 1983, of approximately £1.1M, which diminution is considered to be wholly or largely due to a mis-statement of the net assets at that year end. Whilst these management accounts show a small trading profit, it has been thought appropriate to exclude them from the Group's interim results. An independent investigation by Price Waterhouse into the discrepancies has, in addition, been undertaken. However, the absence of critical records has hindered the conclusion of these enquiries. The Board confirms the future of King Trainers' business has taken steps in relation both to management and accounting controls, and has under review avenues of redress.

Although, in view of these results, your Board is unable to recommend an interim dividend, I am confident the figures for the second half will show a marked improvement.

A. Charlton, Chairman, Boustead plc.

TOPS ESTATES PLC

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Act 1948-1980 Registered in England No. 1570643)

SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised	Issued and to be issued
1,000,000	792,750
	71 p.c. convertible
	Unsecured Loan Stock
	1,761,666

In connection with a placing by Quilter Goodson & Co. of up to 2,168,750 new Ordinary Shares of 10p each in the capital of the Company at 70p per share and to 1,445,833 7 1/2 p.c. convertible Unsecured Loan Stock 2014, at par application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission for the whole of the issued share capital of the Company to be dealt in the Unlisted Securities Market. A proportion of the shares and the stock being placed will be available to the public through the market. It is emphasised that no application has been made for these securities to be admitted to the Official List. Particulars relating to the Company are available in the Extel Unlisted Securities Market Service and copies of such particulars may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 31st October 1984 from:

Quilter Goodson & Co.
Garrard House, 31-45 Gresham Street,
LONDON EC2V 7LH

MMF FACILITIES PLC

Television post production

Our first year on the Unlisted Securities Market

Year ended June	1984 £	1983 £
Sales	1,229,000	1,000,000
Profits	374,000	37,000
Dividends	30%	NIL

The Annual Report may be obtained from:

Peter C.K. Chin ACA
MMF Facilities PLC
Greenstar House, 111 Hare Lane
Claygate, Esher, Surrey KT10 0QY
Telephone: Esher (0372) 68555

The Daily Telegraph share race

THERE ARE dramatic developments in the 1984 Daily Telegraph Share Race. Penland Industries, backed by just one lucky reader from Kuisis in Middlesex, has surged into second place and is mounting a strong challenge on our leader since May, Donald Macpherson.

The group announced quadrupled interim profits at the end of August and prospects for the rest of the year are bullish. The news sent the shares forging ahead and the odd tip or two for the stock has helped push it further ahead in a thin market.

The group, ultimately controlled by Robert Stephen Holdings, is making most of its profits from sports shoes, going

through something of a worldwide boom. It is also engaged in general trading around the world.

The other strong performance over the last couple of weeks has been out up by computer group CASE which has moved up from seventh to third. French Connection is still making headway with its renewed challenge to the leaders.

These are the shares now vying for top spot with Donald Macpherson, Datastream and Martin the Newsagent, all stocks taken over this year which have done very well but their gains are now fixed after their bids have been completed.

New challenges just outside the top ten to emerge are Dunhill, RHP Group and Lincroft Kilgour.

TOP TEN

	Percentage gain to October 3	Number of entrants
D. Macpherson	210-1	5
Penland Industries	190-0	1
CASE	157-3	7
Datastream	154-8	4
French Connection	151-7	12
Martin the Newsagent	144-7	12
Booker McConnell	140-5	3
Ward Holdings	134-9	2
James Neill	128-9	8
Barkley Exploration	121-7	10

List compiled with the help of Datastream.

DIVIDENDS DIARY

TODAY: Finals—Burndene Investment, CPU Computer, Glaxo, Interims—Amari, Edinburgh Investment Trust, Istoc Johnson, Leopold Joseph Sterling Fund, London and County, Microlease, Molins, Sovereign Oil and Gas, Welpac.

TUESDAY: Finals—Ferguson James, Grosvenor Group, Lawless, Prestwich Parker Holdings.

Interims—Borthwick Holdings, British Dredging, Canis International, Christie International, Emes Lighting, Harris Queensway, Harrison TC, Jerome S and Sons, Lilleshaill, and Stratcliffe Trust, Midland Markets Group, Sears Holdings, Senior Engineering Group, Steel Burill, Jones Group.

WEDNESDAY: Finals—Aitwood, Canadian Overseas Pack.

Interims—Advance Services, Brookland Stores, Bradford Farrell Electronics, Fohergill and Harvey, Hambro Life Assurance, Lee Cooper, Spirax, Walsby Hotels, Rabold, Stee Brothers, Telephone Rentals, TDS Circuits, Ward White.

FRIDAY: Finals—Halstead James, Ulster Television.

Interims—Alleghne and Sons, Helene of London, Moncler Office and Electronic Machines, Raybeck.

COMPANIES

Anglo American Investment Trust: First half pre-tax profit £15-8m (1983-7m), EPS (154c) (same). Interim dividend again 100c, payable Dec. 4.

North British Canadian Investment Co.: First half p.t. pft £311,000 (1983-200,000), Income £368,000 (326,000), EPS 3-2p (2-5p), NAV 9-2p (8-1p), Int. div. 10-2p (9-1p), Div. Nov. 12.

Goodwin: Full year pre-tax profit £247,000 (1983-180,000), EPS 1-8p (1-6p), Dividend 0-6p (0-5p), payable Nov. 13.

Arthur Lee & Sons has bought T Plastro Plastics from T1 Group, for £113m cash. Plastro, which operates from Michman, Surrey, makes precision injection moulded plastic products. It ended 1983 with pre-tax profits of £115,700 and management accounts for the first eight months ended August indicate an encouraging improvement in profits on the corresponding period.

Extel Group has acquired the Turner Printer design, for £200,000, of which £200,000 has been paid in cash with the balance being satisfied by Extel shares.

THE LIVERPOOL FORECAST

Why the new jobs are so slow in coming

IT WOULD not be fair to say that this Government has done nothing to create a more flexible labour market. It has done a number of things.

Chief among them have been three important new labour laws which have on paper at least sharply curbed union power. Then it has abolished the earnings related unemployment benefit, the National Insurance surcharge and accelerated depreciation with its capital intensive bias and it has started to raise real tax thresholds, though so far only back to their 1979 level. There have been other good things, too, such as the Walters, Young, Workers and the Youth Training Schemes.

But when one contrasts this series of actions with the determination and energy put into the counter-inflation strategy launched in 1979, one is struck by the lack of a clear strategy and the timidity of the policies.

The occasional flashes of rhetoric from some ministers only serve to point up the lack of effective action. Sometimes this timidity is described as "caution" or "sound political sense".

But its weak and inadequate results in terms of jobs, mirrored in the steady rise of real wages—0 p.c. since 1980—are now finally dawning on ministers. The prices are not for the timid. Unemployment will not go away without a massive expenditure of political energy.

Union power

What will this consist of? First on union power we must have action to make rate laws stick. It is ministers who are undermining their own laws by discouraging public industries from going to the civil courts and the police from demanding severe sentences on criminal picket behaviour. If they lose the coal strike it will be through their failure to use the weapons the law provides.

Second, there must be large and relentless tax cuts, preferably in the form of higher tax thresholds. For these there has to be more explicit strategy of public expenditure reduction or the policy will carry no credibility. Such reduction is within minister's grasp through the greater extension of privatisation and deregulation.

Third, the absurdities of the unemployment benefit system must be faced up to and dealt with. The retreats of ministers on this matter, when the poverty lobby have produced their predictable howls of outrage at any logical proposals, have been depressing to behold.

Fourth, the Employment Protection Act and minimum wage councils should go. Small firms' employment in particular, on which we increasingly rely for jobs, is severely hampered by these restrictions.

These elements should be combined into a new "employment strategy" which should

be spelt out, in a White Paper perhaps, given explicit timetables and explained carefully to the public by all the major ministers and not merely by the new "Minister for Jobs," David Young. The commitment must be explicit and total.

Why do I go through all this in a forecast article? Because a view on whether it or anything approximating it will happen is crucial to the outlook.

The international prospects are now more favourable than they have been at any point in the past five years. World inflation is low and even falling. United States interest rates may at last be slowly falling, the debt crisis is on the mend and the recovery in output is spreading beyond the United States.

Domestically, the ugly coal strike has overshadowed a good steady recovery in the non-strike economy. That recovery has further to go before the economy gets onto its sustainable growth path.

Inflation is steadily falling if temporary factors are stripped out. Money supply growth is well within the target ranges, if anything a bit on the low side, and the P.S.B.R. seems likely to be on target this year, with a large contingency reserve and buoyant revenue allowing the (to date) £1 billion cost of the coal strike.

When the coal strike is eventually settled these factors will become more obvious and, provided the settlement terms are satisfactory, optimism—already reviving—will build upwards.

But on those settlement terms now hangs not just the future viability of the coal industry but more importantly the future effectiveness of this Government's legal attempts to curb union power. It is as much the rule of law itself as the substance of the dispute that is now the issue.

For this reason the strike must be defeated as quickly as possible, so that unions do not again resort to such illegalities. Churchmen preaching compromise and economists recommending "costs"—which in any case omits the crucial cost to the taxpayer—have missed this basic point.

The forecast is based on the assumption that the strike will be defeated by a return to work and that unions will respond to this signal with a gradual reduction in wage demands and increased flexibility in working

practices. It also assumes that ministers will regain their nerve and commit themselves to something like the employment strategy outlined earlier.

The forecast makes it clear that there is a lot to play for. Growth can not only continue but also improve, as the supply-side—ignored in the policies of all previous post war governments—asserts its stimulus.

Keynesian forecasters have tried to persuade us only to look at the demand side. They ask: "Where is the demand coming from?"

The burden of our forecast is rather different. Greater supply based on lower real prices leads to falling relative prices of British goods relative to those of our competitors and to the money supply, so demand is created to absorb it. In the process it also contributes to falling inflation. Since falling inflation, relative to money supply growth, is one of the mechanisms by which growth occurs.

Falling inflation

Finally, falling inflation brings down interest rates, and of course causes a strong exchange rate, because lenders require less compensation for inflation.

Five years ago such an account of the economy was generally considered fringe lunacy by "mainstream" economists, and so necessarily by many intelligent laymen. Now in 1984 we have seen the power of monetary policy to reduce inflation dramatically while permitting a good cyclical recovery in output as inflation expectations die down.

The demonstration of that power was the result of Mrs Thatcher's faith in old classical monetary remedies for inflation in the face of fashionable Keynesian brood of previous political failures. Supply-side remedies come from the same classical stable and work through the same model of the economy.

Mrs Thatcher should now put the same energy and commitment behind these remedies. She will then achieve a similar demonstration of effectiveness on the employment side.

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Patrick Minford is Professor of Applied Economics at the University of Liverpool.

THE LIVERPOOL FORECAST

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
GDP growth p.c. (expenditure estimate)	3-5	2-3	4-4	4-1	2-7	2-4
Inflation — p.c.	5-4	4-5	2-3	2-0	0-6	0-0
Unemployment (millions excluding school leavers)	3-0	3-0	2-8	2-4	2-2	1-9
Exchange rate (trade-weighted average)	83-3	78-6	78-4	79-2	81-1	84-3
Treasury Bill rate p.c.	9-0	9-7	8-2	6-4	4-4	4-2
Current Balance (£ billions)	2-9	1-0	2-9	1-6	3-7	5-3

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MMF FACILITIES PLC

Television post production

Our first year on the Unlisted Securities Market

Year ended June	1984 £	1983 £
Sales	1,229,000	1,000,000
Profits	374,000	

Sport... ON 5 PAGES

SAGACE TAKES ARC AS ENGLISH RAIDERS FLOP

By HOTSPUR (Peter Scott) at Longchamp
SAGACE, a colt ridden by Yves Saint-Martin for Daniel Wildenstein, won yesterday's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. His Longchamp victory over Northern Trick and All Along prevented France's biggest race from going to a filly for the sixth consecutive year.

Saint-Martin, riding his fourth Arc winner, had Sagace prominent throughout and sent the four-year-old past the Australian hope, Strawberry Road, to lead with more than a furlong left. Northern Trick came from far behind to give unavailing chase.

Northern Trick, beaten two lengths, still finished six lengths ahead of last year's winner, All Along, who was coupled with Sagace in the betting at 29-10.

The Anglo-Irish hopes were all well beaten. Northern Trick finished eighth, Sun Prince ninth, Lovely Dancer 10th and Time Charter 11th.

Tony Murray, who switched from puccinacci Donzel to Rainbow Quest when Lester

Arc details

TRISTITIOUS FOURTH PRIZE, DE LAURE, 12.00.00. 25-40. SAGACE, 12.00.00. 25-40. NORTHERN TRICK, 12.00.00. 25-40. ALL ALONG, 12.00.00. 25-40. SUN PRINCE, 12.00.00. 25-40. LOVELY DANCER, 12.00.00. 25-40. TIME CHARTER, 12.00.00. 25-40. TONY MURRAY, 12.00.00. 25-40. RAINBOW QUEST, 12.00.00. 25-40.

TODAY'S BATH SELECTIONS

COURSE CORR. FORM

2.0-House Hunter 2.0-House Hunter
2.0-Tour D'Or 2.0-Tour D'Or (map)
2.0-Simple Melody 2.0-Simple Melody
2.0-Coral Reef 2.0-Coral Reef
2.0-Africa 2.0-Africa
2.0-My Adagio 2.0-My Adagio

HOTSPUR'S BATH-SELECTIONS

HOTSPUR'S BATH-SELECTIONS
HOTSPUR'S BATH-SELECTIONS
HOTSPUR'S BATH-SELECTIONS

NEWMARKET

NEWMARKET
NEWMARKET
NEWMARKET

Piccoli was repossessed in a Newmarket fall on Saturday, and his mount was all at sea on the stony ground and was beaten a long way out.

Willie Carson also left the going was against last year's second, Sun Prince. She made a promising forward and was approaching the straight but failed to sustain it.

This was Sun Prince's final race but Time Charter was one of the breeders' cup jockeys at Hollywood Park, California on Nov. 10, before retirement to stud.

Sieve Caution said that the going handicapped Time Charter yesterday because her preparations had been relaxed by rain on her nose and the testing conditions revealed lack of peak fitness.

Mr Wildenstein, who owns both Sagace and All Along, thus won the Arc with different horses in consecutive years. No other owner has managed this since the race assumed its present high international status in 1949.

Mr Wildenstein, who also won the 1974 Arc with All Along, bought Sagace's granddam, Chrysothronus, a French-trained winner and also successful in the Grand Prix de Caen, France, a half-brother of the late Henri Ceril but whose career was marred by injuries.

No plans settled
Sagace and Simply Great will both be at stud next spring. Mr Wildenstein says that Sagace is a nervous traveller, so there is no point in his making the Atlantic for big races later this autumn.

All Along, by contrast, will attempt to repeat last year's victory in the Blythburgh International at Woodbine Park, Toronto. All Along's effort yesterday was all the more creditable since he had been in season only three days beforehand and the ground was all against him.

Saint Martin, 15, and 13-times champion jockey in France, has not equalled the Arc riding record of four wins by Freddie Head and the late Jacques Doussier.

Saint Martin and Sagace both missed part of this season through injury. Sagace missed two months riding because of a fall at Chantilly in June, and Sagace fractured a small front leg in late April.

Patrick Blumens, trainer both Sagace and All Along, said Northern Trick is likely to race again next year but no plans have been settled for the Irish Oaks winner. Blumens said that Sagace's position in the last half-mile.

SATURDAY'S RACING RESULTS

NEWMARKET

COURSE CORR. FORM

2.0-House Hunter 2.0-House Hunter
2.0-Tour D'Or 2.0-Tour D'Or (map)
2.0-Simple Melody 2.0-Simple Melody
2.0-Coral Reef 2.0-Coral Reef
2.0-Africa 2.0-Africa
2.0-My Adagio 2.0-My Adagio

HOTSPUR'S BATH-SELECTIONS

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Course Notes & Hints

Blubella is Best of the Day

By OUR COURSE CORRESPONDENT

BLUBELLA, who showed her best form in three starts when second to Mums at Newbury last time, may fulfil the promise in today's Blatway Stakes (4.0) at Bath.

Joe Bolding's filly failed by one and a half lengths to cope with the Michael Smith-trained newcomer but she had 21 behind her in what was probably an above-average event.

Blubella showed good early speed before finishing ninth to lift on her debut at Windsor in 1953.

Blubella should pose no problems. Atrah may provide most opposition.

Flying Tenderfoot easily won on Appecsee a good winner on Saturday in a Good.

Wood seller last month, David Elsworth's colt seems an attractive prospect with 8-1 in the County Handicap (4.30).

Kayus is expected to gain an overdue success in the Morris-Dancer Handicap (5.0) and Miss Cambril can take advantage of a light weight in the Western-Land Handicap (5.20).

Kayus was having his first race for six weeks when third to Dunsin over course and distance last time. He may show sufficient improvement to beat the admirably consistent First Pleasure.

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Bath runners, riders, draw & form

Racecard Numbers shown on left. Figures before oblique strokes refer to pre-1953 form and before hyphen to 1953 form. "Averages" show the number of winners in the race. "Favorites" are the favorites. "Bl" - blundered. Draw for places on right.

EFFECT OF DRAW: High numbers slightly favoured up to 1m

Advance Official Going: GOOD TO FIRM

2.0: ALDIE APPRENTICE STAKES Penalty Value £1,928 1m 2f 50y (6 declared)

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TELEVISION - MONDAY

GUIDE BY HARVEY LEE

BBC-1

6.30 a.m. Breakfast Time, with Frank Bough and Fern Britton. 8 Election 85A. Recording of the first on-screen encounter between President Reagan and the Democratic challenger Walter Mondale in Louisville, Kentucky. 10.30 Play School. 10.50 Gardener's World, rpt. 12.30 News, Weather. 12.50 Regional News (London and South East only). 1.30 The World of Cooking: Hong Kong, rpt. 2.25 See Hear! rpt. 2.50 In the Making. Artist Robert Bates at work. 3.30 Play School. 4.10 The Hunter. 4.15 Beat the Newground. 5 Blue Peter. (Ceebox sub-titles.) 5.30 Ask the Family. 5.35 Weather.

6.00 NEWS.

6.30 REGIONAL MAGAZINES.

6.55 HARTY—Barbara Cartland, Ken Livingstone, singers Alison Moyet, Georgie Fame and Patti Boulaye join Russell Harty.

BBC-2

7.45 a.m. 8.10 Open University. 9.15-3.15 Daytime on Two. Schools and general interest programmes. 3.15 Dallas. More homebound squabbles at Ewing Oil, rpt. (Ceebox sub-titles.) 3.45 "The Sun Shines Bright" (1955, b/w). Home-span humour, handled by John Ford, who had previously filmed here. Charles Winkler plays the eternal Confederate, fighting for re-election 40 years after the Civil War. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.25 News, Weather. 5.30 The Dog Show.

6.00 "KING'S REAPSOOT" (1935). Ivor Novello's musical play was transferred to the screen by husband and wife partners Herbert Wilcox and Anna Neagle. She plays a courtesan about to be abandoned by prince Errol Flynn is forced to marry.

7.30 TRELAWNY'S NAVY—in the wash of a storm of steam tugs making for a safe anchorage at a new steamboat museum on the Tyne.

ITV Thames

6.25 a.m. Good Morning Britain. 9.25 Thames News Headlines. 9.30 For Schools. 12.15 Let's Pretend. 12.30 Do It Yourself. Laying carpet tiles, rpt. 1. News. 1.30 Thames News. 1.35 "Moon Zero Two" (1968). Fallen hero James Clouse on his dark side in this space adventure that mixes Catherine Von Winkle and the eternal Confederate, fighting for re-election 40 years after the Civil War. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.25 News, Weather. 5.30 The Dog Show.

5.45 NEWS.

6.00 THAMES NEWS.

6.25 HELIX—On residential courses.

6.35 CROSSROADS.

7.00 THE KRYPTON FACTOR—Four men, age range 25 to 37, in this second semi-final. (Oracle sub-titles.)

Channel 4

3.30 The Presidential Debate. Last night's coast-to-coast TV confrontation between Ronald Reagan and Walter Mondale. 5.30 Alcoa. American cable comedy. 5.30 Abbott and Costello.

6.00 WELL BEING—"Juvenile delinquents" discuss whether they regret their label, or merely react to it in a disordered world. Repeat.

6.40 LET'S PARLEY FRANKLAIS—Alec Nerys Hughes, Christopher Timothy, Show Taylor, Tim Brooke-Taylor.

7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS: at 7.30 Comment by Sir Peter Parker, rpt. Weather.

8.00 BROOKSIDE.

8.30 CHANCE IN A MILLION—Accident-prone Simco Callow causes Brenda Blethyn (as Allison) to lose her job.

9.00 "A FRAGMENT OF MEMORY"—"Cambridge is an atmosphere"—thus film-maker Michael Oram (1984) on Michael Oram (1938) and this gentle

7.40 GET SET GO!—Word game with Michael Barrymore.

8.10 PANORAMA—Thatcher's Revolution: What Next? On the eve of the Conservative Party conference Michael Cockerill examines the party from its head downwards, then Mr. Tidd, the Industry Secretary, is interviewed by Fred Emery.

9.00 NEWS, WEATHER.

9.25 "THE AMSTERDAM KILL" (1977). Hong Kong. A crime thriller has Robert Mitchum, typically dour, as a narcotics agent sacked because of his own addiction, but drawn back into action to bring two warring drug gangs to book. Kyle Luke, in younger days Charlie Chan's Number One son, plays a police informer, while Richard Egan and Bradford Dillman complete an unusually mature line-up of leading men. Robert Clouse directed his own script.

10.55 FILM 84—Weekly film review passes judgment on "Cal" and Sergio Leone's monumental New York immigrant epic, "Once Upon a Time in America", which Robert De Niro also, the last television interview with the late Burton. 11.25 News.

11.25 SPARKS—Young entrepreneurs stage a show. Repeat. 11.50 Weather.

8.00 TO THE MANOE BORN—Repeat.

8.30 BOTTLE SADDLES—The northern Western rides again, with Kenneth Cope as the hotelier with the terrier dog.

9.00 KELLY MONTEITH—American humorist turns to the more salacious products of the Street of Shame.

9.30 "THE LION AND THE DRAGON"—Christopher Cook, who cut his teeth, not to mention his best films, on "Yesterday's Witness", contributes this first of a brace of documentaries about the relationship between Britain and China. Archive film from Shanghai, dubbed the "Paris of the East", and personal souvenirs from Brits who were there in the 1920s and 30s are interlarded in this engrossing history.

10.15 JACK HUGH—First of seven days from the Gateway Masters bowling tournament at Worthing.

10.45-11.35 NEWSNIGHT.

7.30 CORONATION STREET. (Oracle sub-titles.)

8.00 TRIPPER'S DAY—Bingo amongst the baked beans could result in a disastrous, full house for the harassed supermarket manager (Leonard Rossiter) who he discovers that the last television interview with the late Burton. 11.25 News.

8.30 WORLD IN ACTION—Investigates Football's "Mr. Fixit".

9.00 QUINCY—New series, but old plot, as police fail to believe a murder witness because they fail to find the corpse. Jack Klugman, pathologist, probes. Carrie Snodgrass guests.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN, followed by Thames News Headlines.

10.30 "CHILD'S PLAY"—Mery Crosby and Nicholas Clay are walked-in in this small screen score, from the Hammer House of Horror and Suspense.

11.55 THE BOUNDER—Repeat. 12.25 Night Thoughts, with Sister Jean Robinson.

celluloid scrapbook of student days and student politics, insulated from the ramp of the jackboot through central Europe. "The steady" is a simple Socialist, it was social. It was fun. Oram reflects in this atmospheric documentary, not so much an apology for leftist Communist sympathies as a nostalgic celebration.

10.00 ST ELSEWHERE—"The heart transplant patient fails to mention a 'minor' complication in her eagerness to go home."

11.00-12.40 "RETURN TO VIENNA" (1983). The steady railway shuttles into Vienna that opens this Austrian documentary with English subtitles echoes the first sight of the 60,000 Jewish immigrants who settled there after the First World War, and the last sight when many of them were treated out to the Nazis concentration camps 20 years later. From West (born Weintraub) recalls Vienna to the intervening years, with old photographs and film to illustrate the alarmingly rapid acceptance of official anti-Semitism.

★Outstanding. ★Recommended.

ITV REGIONS

TVS

6.25 Good Morning. 9.25 TVS in View. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 News. 12.05 Flcks. 12.10 Let's Pretend. 12.30 Do It Yourself. 1.00 News. 1.05 TVS News. 1.30 "And I Alone Survived". 1976 film. Blair Brown and David Ackroyd in a story of plane-crash survivors in California's Sierra Nevada mountains. 3.15 Afternoon Club. 3.20 Take the High Road. 4.00 Flcks. 4.15 Tower. 4.20 News. 4.30 Educational Marmalade. 4.40 Dangerous. 4.45 Blockbusters. 4.50 News. 5.00 World in Action. 5.05 The Krypton Factor. 5.10 Coronation Street. 5.15 Tripper's Day. 5.20 World in Action. 5.25 QuinCY, new series. 5.30 News. 5.35 Central News. 5.40 The Krypton Factor. 5.45 Coronation Street. 5.50 Tripper's Day. 5.55 World in Action. 6.00 QuinCY, new series. 6.05 News. 6.10 Central News. 6.15 The Krypton Factor. 6.20 Coronation Street. 6.25 Tripper's Day. 6.30 World in Action. 6.35 QuinCY, new series. 6.40 News. 6.45 Central News. 6.50 The Krypton Factor. 6.55 Coronation Street. 7.00 Tripper's Day. 7.05 World in Action. 7.10 QuinCY, new series. 7.15 News. 7.20 Central News. 7.25 The Krypton Factor. 7.30 Coronation Street. 7.35 Tripper's Day. 7.40 World in Action. 7.45 QuinCY, new series. 7.50 News. 7.55 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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, IN MEMORIAM AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

(Minimum 2 lines)

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Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.00 a.m. and 6.45 p.m. Monday to Friday, on Saturday between 9 a.m. and 12 noon.

FORWORTHING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, etc. on Court Page 28

Deaths

Announcements cannot be accepted by telephone.

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TUC PAVE WAY FOR RETURN TO NEDDY

By ROLAND GRIBBIN
Business Correspondent

AN agreement has been hammered out to pave the way for the return of union leaders to the National Economic Development Council, popularly known as Neddy.

The deal has been negotiated between the TUC and the Confederation of British Industry which has been acting as a bridge-builder between the two sides.

The TUC decided to boycott council meetings early this year as part of a programme of action against the government's ban on unions at GCHQ Cheltenham.

There have been fears that Neddy and the scores of committees which operate under its umbrella would have to fold if the TUC boycott continued.

But last month's TUC conference decided, despite strong opposition, that the withdrawal would not be permanent.

Both the TUC and the CBI in behind-the-scenes discussions have agreed that the council needs to be strengthened in terms of authority and debate, sharpened to provide greater focus on key industrial and economic issues.

Mr Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who was instrumental in starting a new initiative, has accepted the principle of binding arbitration on the question of pit closures and was not against Nacods proposals.

The TUC Economic Committee, which was asked to approve the "return to Neddy" formula which provides for an annual discussion on key economic issues before Government decisions are made.

The aim is to ensure a greater input from both sides of industry into Government thinking on the budget, public spending and other strategic issues.

Both sides have also agreed that the Council needs to concentrate more on promoting conditions favourable to faster economic growth.

TROOPS ACT AS FIVE DIE IN RIOTS

By Our Islamabad Correspondent

Five people died in sectarian rioting in Karachi, Pakistan, over the weekend, and Army troops were called out.

The trouble arose from rumours that a group of major Sunni Muslims had attacked a mosque of the minority Shiite community.

The two sides went on a rampage and burned down 70 of each other's houses and shops.

RUSSIA TAPPING U.S. TELEPHONES

By Our Washington Staff

America's largest intelligence organisation, the National Security Agency, wants the government and industry to be equipped with half a million spy-proof telephones at a cost of hundreds of millions of dollars.

The agency is convinced that the Soviet Union obtains important intelligence from America's telephones.

Times reported yesterday, a senior official of the N.S.A. Mr. Walter Deely said the increased use of communications satellites and microwave transmission inners made it economically possible for almost any nation or large corporation to intercept messages.

PRIZE SOLUTION

of SEPTEMBER 27—No. 10260

WIMBLESLEY

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